BENNETT, COLEMAN & CO. LTD. | Estd. 1838 | VOL. 43 NO. 138 BENGALURU | THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2026 | METRO | PAGES 24 | PRICE ₹6**

THE TIMES OF INDIA

INCLUDES 6 PAGES OF BANGALORE TIMES

INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

India all-rounder Hardik Pandya ruled out of the three-match ODI series against Afghanistan after picking up a fresh quadriceps strain, **P 16**

US govt to offer 'premium' visa interview for $750

The State Department will offer a "premium" expedited service for foreigners seeking business or tourist visas to come to US that will set applicants back $750 — on top of the initial fee of $185. In a notice to be published in Federal Register this week, the department will unveil a pilot program that will allow visa applicants to pay $750 to schedule an appointment for an interview in 10 days of the payment at select US embassies. The pilot program will run from July 1 to Dec 31. **P 14**

HC ex-judge, family get cop cover in UK after death threat

The UK police are providing security to ex-Bombay HC judge Gautam Patel and his family in London after they faced threats and attacks in response to a 2024 verdict establishing succession of the Syedna, spiritual leader of the Dawoodi Bohra community. His daughter received a death threat letter on June 5. **P 6**

Inflation in US hits 3-year high of 4.2%

US consumer inflation surged to a fresh three-year high of 4.2% in May, with soaring energy prices caused by Trump's war in Iran posing a key challenge to Republicans ahead of midterm polls. REUTERS

12 killed, 9 hurt in S Africa shooting

Twelve people died and at least nine were wounded when a group of armed gang opened fire in Johannesburg, South Africa, late Tuesday. Police Wednesday said they are looking for the 10 attackers. **P 14**

Bharathiraja, famed Tamil director, dies

Bharathiraja, revered as the Himalayan giant, died in Chennai at 84 after a prolonged illness. He transformed Tamil cinema through authentic rural storytelling and won six National Awards. **P 11**

Pak army copter crashes, all dead

An Mi-17 helicopter of Pakistan Army crashed near Muzaffarabad in POK Wednesday. "There were no survivors," Pakistan military, said, without giving the numbers. PTI

Interim relief to Anil Ambani in tax case

Bombay HC has granted interim protection from prosecution or imposition of any penalty by I-T department to Anil Ambani in an alleged Rs 420cr aggregate tax demand case. **P 11**

As he achieves record, PM vows faster reforms

'We Must Dedicate Every Moment To Fulfilling Dream Of Developed India'

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New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi said Wednesday that stability and development at an unprecedented speed and scale had replaced Congress's era of instability, scams and misgovernance, winning his govt the trust of people in its 12 years. He vowed to further quicken the pace of decisions made in national interest, as leading members of BJP-led NDA gathered here to hail his achievements.

"The dream of developed India has become the dream of every citizen. We have to dedicate every moment to fulfilling it," he told NDA members, who marked Modi's twin milestones — completing 12 years in office on the back of wins in three consecutive LS elections and surpassing Jawaharlal Nehru's record for longest tenure as an elected PM — by passing a resolution moved by Andhra Pradesh CM N Chandrababu Naidu praising Modi as their "anchor and innovator" who was working with the single agenda of 'nation first'.

FULL COVERAGE: P 8

PTI

West Bengal CM Suvendu Adhikari serves jhalmuri to PM Modi at an NDA meet at Bharat Mandapam on Wednesday

▶'Modi's century', P 9

TMC may be headed NCP, Sena way, rebels claim support of 19 of 28 MPs

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New Delhi: A veteran of many political battles, Mamata Banerjee may be up against her most arduous challenge yet. Sources within the rebel TMC camp said they have managed the support of at least 19 Lok Sabha MPs, two-thirds of the party's strength of 28, and will claim to be representing its parliamentary wing in the House, a strategy similar to that of the breakaway faction of its MLAs, which has captured its legislative wing in the West Bengal assembly.

In a sign of the extent of TMC's unravelling, vocal Mamata-Abhishek loyalists, most notably Saayoni Ghoshand three Muslim MPs are supporting the breakaway faction. The claim to be the "real" TMC could help them circumvent the constitutional requirement to instantly merge with BJP in order to avoid disqualification: a route that was earlier taken by Eknath Shinde-led faction of Shiv Sena and then Ajit Pawar-led NCP. Both groups were later recognised by Election Commission as the real wings of the original parties and are BJP allies.

▶Rebels may lay claim to party name, P 9

PTI

Sushmita Dev, who resigned as TMC RS MP Wednesday, met Himanta Biswa Sarma. She may join BJP

Swapan Dasgupta gets finance in Bengal, health with oncologist

Bengal CM Suvendu Adhikari has kept the cabinet portfolios of home, law and judiciary, power, land and land revenue, information and cultural affairs, and other heavyweight ministries. Long-time **TOI** columnist Swapan Dasgupta has been given finance, oncologist Sharadwat Mukherjee health, ex-headmaster Dipak Barman school education, and Tapas Roy commerce and industry. **P 9**

Cong delegation meets EC over Natarajan row

New Delhi: Slamming the rejection of the nomination form of Meenakshi Natarajan, Congress told Election Commission Wednesday that there is no criminal case pending against the Rajya Sabha nominee, and urged it to overturn the returning officer's order in MP.

"It is like saying two plus two is seven, not even five. It is an egregious, unlawful order, and it should be set aside immediately," Abhishek Singhvi said, adding that the RO's order strikes at the heart of democracy and the Constitution. TNN

▶Cong hangs RSS uniform at MP CEO office, P 9

▶Reverse RO order, P 11

Serve 5 yrs, get permanent job: Karnataka govt's plan to tackle doctor shortage

Bengaluru: Doctors serving on a contractual basis in govt health institutions may soon be offered permanent appointments after completing five years of satisfactory service, health minister UT Khader said Wednesday.

The proposal comes amid a shortage of medical personnel, with 1,290 MBBS doctor posts and more than 924 specialist vacancies requiring postgraduate qualifications remaining unfilled. Once approved by the govt, the measure is expected to provide young doctors with greater job security and serve as an incentive to work in public health facilities.

Khader said 200 posts will be filled through direct recruitment, while the remaining 1,000 on contractual basis. TNN

ATTRACTIVE OFFER

- **1,290 MBBS posts and 924 specialist vacancies currently unfilled**
- Contract docs **may be absorbed into permanent govt service after satisfactory performance**
- **Docs can apply through DHOs** and get appointment orders within a week
- **MBBS docs will be paid ₹60k a month** while specialists ₹1.1 lakh
- **₹15,000 will be extra incentive for rural service**

▶Young docs reluctant, P 5

2 soldiers killed in 'accidental blast' in Uri

Srinagar: Two soldiers attached to a unit deployed in J&K's Uri sector, close to the LoC and about 100km north of Srinagar, were fatally wounded Tuesday afternoon in what the Army described as "an accidental blast", **reports Naseer Ganai.**

Arjun Jadhav and Vikram Balakrishna, both from Maharashtra, were taken to the Army's 92 Base Hospital in Srinagar but couldn't be saved. They were declared dead on arrival, Srinagar-based Army spokesperson Lt Col Manoj Sahu said. He didn't elaborate beyond saying that the explosion occurred in the Kamalkote area of Uri sector. Till late in the evening, there was no official statement from the Army disclosing the circumstances of the blast. Elsewhere in J&K, state police and CAPF companies carried out a comprehensive joint mock drill in Pahalgam in preparation for the Amarnath Yatra starting July 3.

Knife attack by immigrant sparks riots in Belfast

The family of a man who lost an eye in a knife attack appealed for calm on Wednesday after the incident triggered a wave of anti-immigrant violence in Belfast overnight, with masked men burning families out of their homes and torching vehicles. The appeal came as a Sudanese man appeared in court charged with attempted murder and as UK PM Keir Starmer and politicians in Northern Ireland condemned the violence by "masked thugs" that had targeted ethnic minorities.

Hundreds of protesters, many with their faces covered, had attacked police and burned vehicles in a number of locations across Northern Ireland late on Tuesday. **P 14**

Probe report on AI 171 likely on Fri, anniv of crash

Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau is expected to release either an interim or final report on Friday, the first anniversary of the AI 171 crash in Ahmedabad that killed 260 people. The report, even if interim, is expected to answer some questions, including the reason behind the movement of fuel cutoff switches seconds after lift-off, **reports Manju V.**

International Civil Aviation Organisation's Annex 13 states that if a final report cannot be made public within 12 months of an accident, then the country should release an "interim statement on each anniversary detailing progress of investigation".

▶Black box data, P 9

India lodges protest with US as 3 sailors go missing after attack

MEA Summons US Official, Delivers Formal Demarche

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New Delhi: Govt condemned a US attack on a commercial vessel off the coast of Oman on Wednesday that left three Indian crew members missing, while also officially lodging a protest with the US embassy here. There were 24 Indian seafarers onboard the Palau-flagged Settebello, which was struck by precision munitions while transiting the Gulf of Oman, out of whom 21 have been rescued.

It is learnt that ministry of external affairs (MEA) additional secretary (Americas) Nagaraj Naidu summoned US charge d'affaires Jason Meeks and delivered a formal demarche protesting what was the second attack in the past few days by US forces on a shipping vessel with many Indian crew members on board.

Unlike the ship that was targeted earlier, Settebello is not blacklisted by the US Office of Foreign Assets Control, a point that Naidu made in the extended meeting that started at 8.45pm and lasted for almost 25 minutes.

OF 24 CREW ON SHIP, 21 RESCUED

- A **Palau-flagged tanker caught fire after it was attacked by US Navy off the coast of Oman on June 8** as ship was blacklisted and sanctioned by US. Its 24 Indian crew members were safely rescued
- **MT Marivex made four attempts to evade US blockade** of Iranian ports, people familiar with the matter say
- **Second US attack was on vessel 'Settebello'**, which had 24 Indian crew on board. Of them, 21 have been rescued and three are missing
- **MEA says Indian embassy in Oman is closely monitoring situation** and coordinating with Omani authorities in ongoing search and rescue operation
- In a post on X, **US Central Command** claims crew of Palau-flagged Settebello **'repeatedly failed to comply with directions from American forces'**

US, Iran trade fire, Trump vows to 'hit hard'

President Donald Trump warned on Wednesday that he would renew US attacks on Iran, saying Tehran would "pay the price" for delaying negotiations for an interim peace deal and accused its negotiators of "playing us for suckers". The remarks came after Iran and the US once again traded fire following the downing of an Apache helicopter, further straining a ceasefire that took effect in April but has been marked by sporadic flare-ups. "We hit them hard yesterday. We're going to hit them again hard today," Trump said in the Oval Office. **P 14**

▶'Attack worrisome', P 9

Day after Kuki hostages' release, 6 abducted Nagas found dead in Manipur

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Guwahati: Security forces traced the bodies of six Nagas abducted by armed Kuki groups in Manipur four weeks ago to an undisclosed location near a village in Kangpokpi district on Wednesday, reigniting ethnic tensions that seemed to have eased just the day before with the release of 14 Kuki hostages in Naga captivity.

There was no official statement until late in the evening about the state of the bodies United Naga Council (UNC), the community's largest forum in Manipur, responded with a 24-hour shutdown call across Naga-inhabited areas from 6am Thursday and said it wouldn't receive the bodies until the Union and state govts ensured justice was done.

VIOLENT SPIRAL

- **3 pastors killed on May 13.** Kukis blamed Naga outfits
- In retaliation, **civilian shot dead and several Naga villagers abducted.** Naga groups then **abducted over two dozen Kuki villagers**
- Both sides **freed 14 hostages each May 15,** but Naga groups still held 14 Kuki villagers, insisting on release of 6 Nagas. Kuki groups denied any knowledge of them

▶CM condemns death, P 7

Driving licence may stay valid till age 50

New Delhi: Govt is looking at extending the validity period of driving licences from the current 20 years to till the time the holder turns 50, and making the process of transfer of vehicle ownership and renewal of permits online, **reports Dipak Dash.**

TOI has learned that the road transport ministry is working on both proposals and may roll out these for "ease of living". Officials said state govts' revenues won't be impacted as the charges for obtaining and renewal of DL can be collected online. The ministry is also considering making the process easier for drivers above 50 to submit a medical certificate for renewal of DL.

▶Seamless transfer, P 11

'Gross abuse of law': HC quashes FIR, ED case against Newsclick, founder

New Delhi: In a relief to digital news platform NewsClick and its founding editor-in-chief Prabir Purkayastha, Delhi high court Wednesday quashed an FIR registered by the economic offences wing (EOW) over allegations of illegal foreign funding, holding that the case disclosed no cognisable offence under the IPC, **reports Koushiki Saha.**

Justice Neena Bansal Krishna held that even if all allegations in the FIR were accepted in their entirety, the essential ingredients of offences under Sections 406 (criminal breach of trust) and 420 (cheating) IPC were not made out. Holding that continuation of the proceedings amounted to a "gross abuse of the process of law", the court quashed the FIR and observed that once the predicate offence itself stood quashed, the Enforcement Directorate's enforcement case information report, registered on its basis, would also become liable to be quashed.

> Aside from bald assertions of there being a criminal conspiracy, there is not a whisper of any incriminating allegation, which would even remotely suggest the commission of the offence punishable under Section 4 PMLA
> — **Justice N B Krishna, Delhi HC**

▶Nothing incriminating, P 7

IN THE COURTS

- Uttarakhand **HC orders protection for teenage live-in couple** facing threat from female's kin, directs UCC registration | **P 6**
- Delhi high court grants **bail to terror funding accused,** in jail for four years, citing **prolonged incarceration and delayed trial** | **P 11**
- K'taka HC issues **SOPs for access to disabled persons** in all buildings, gives **6-month time to set up monitoring & enforcement authority** | **P 5**
- K'taka HC **dismisses police's plea for cancellation of bail to Darshan** in Renukaswamy murder case | **P 5**

Game on: Brands look to net a winner with Fifa World Cup

Mumbai: The Fifa World Cup is here and Indian brands are all set to tap into the global soccer showpiece to gain a share of consumers' mindspace, **reports Asmita Dey.**

The tournament's viewership tends to extend beyond hard-core football enthusiasts, and so for companies, the opportunity is not just limited to advertising and sponsorships.

Marketers said there is a lot of scope for them to build engagement with young consumers creating the potential to forge a long-term partnership and reach more people who otherwise may not have explored their brands.

Companies across segments are readying product launches around the event: in QSR space, for instance, brands such as McDonald's are looking to roll out Fifa meals. Some are looking to have screenings across bars, offer discounts on product purchases while creating experiential retail touchpoints.

STAYING ON THE (EYE)BALL

INDIA BUZZ | India ranks as the **second-most engaged market globally** after the US for World Cup-related content consumption, generating **9.7m page views** over past 90 days across the web, as per data tracked by Taboola

BRANDWAGON | Official India broadcaster Z says it has **signed over 12 brands** so far despite a late start. Auto, FMCG, BFSI, beverages, tech and lifestyle segments are top spenders

WHAT'S IN STORE | A big beer brand will set up in-store experience within retail spaces around June-end, also host match screenings. A fast-food giant will launch Fifa value meals while an electronics brand has introduced limited period offers on its TV sets

SCREEN SURGE | A TV brand says it has logged 2x growth in large-screen TVs, led by Bengal and Kerala; others anticipate a 15-27% surge in sales

▶No. 2 in consumption, P 13

Govt may hold off on higher ethanol mandate

Dipak Dash & Sidhartha

New Delhi: Govt may not immediately mandate a higher level of ethanol blending but would leave it to buyers to decide on flex fuel vehicles amid concerns that rushing from E20 to E25 will damage engines of existing vehicles.

Most cars and two-wheelers manufactured between 2012 and March 2023 were designed or certified to be E10-compliant, while those produced from April 2023 onwards are E20 material-compliant, meaning they are designed to handle petrol blended with up to 20% ethanol. However, only vehicles sold from April 2025 onwards are fully E20-compliant.

Govt is also readying standards for E22, E25, E27 and E30, allowing for up to 30% ethanol in petrol. Separately, it is starting trials for E25 vehicles, which will take time.

MILEAGE CONCERN

- Experts say as most existing petrol vehicles are not fully E20-compliant, **any mandatory increase would** reduce mileage and **up maintenance costs**
- **Auto industry and sugar lobby have pitched** for calibrated increase in blending
- Experts say best option is to **give vehicle owners choice** of E20 and higher blends

▶'To hit mileage', P 13

Ice cream spill sparked assault on 6-year-old girl, BF confesses

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Bengaluru: The mystery surrounding the death of P Vennela, 6, in March has been solved, with a chilling confession from the prime accused. Mohan GN, live-in partner of the girl's mother and key suspect, reportedly confessed to police he hit the girl in the stomach with his elbow when she spilled ice cream in their car and forceshut her mouth to muffle her cries. The twin unintended acts in quick succession led to the girl's death, police said quoting from his confession.

On March 24, Mohan and Priyanka, along with Vennela, visited shops and eateries in and around Indiranagar, Bengaluru. Late night, the trio drove towards the outskirts in their multiutility vehicle (MUV), stopping for a dinner of biryani and ice cream at Hoskote.

During interrogation, he spilled the beans on the tragedy that unfolded inside the MUV. "Vennela spilled her ice cream all over the seat and on the foot mat. She was crying for a different cone. In a fit of rage, I hit her on the stomach with my elbow and tight-shut her mouth when she started crying loudly," Mohan reportedly told investigators.

Vennela was the daughter of Praveen, an educationist from Davanagere, and Priyanka, an advocate. The couple had recently separated, and Priyanka and Mohan moved in together in Jan.

MYSTERY SOLVED?

- **Six-year-old Vennela died in March;** the case was initially suspected to be food poisoning
- **Prime accused Mohan GN,** her mother's live-in partner, **has confessed to the crime**
- **He reportedly struck the child after she spilled ice cream and covered her mouth** to silence her cries
- Police say the **combined actions led to her death**
- **The mother, Priyanka, is currently on the run**

▶Mom absconding, P 3

Bangalore Times

Bharathirajaa passes away at 84; leaves behind a cinematic revolution

PUTTANNA CHANGAI AND KARNATAKA SHARED A MASTER STORYTELLER

THE WORLD CUP'S HERE, BUT WHERE'S THE HYPE?

Visa troubles

Night-owl viewing isn't for all

Tickets up for grabs

BEYOND ENGLISH, SPORT FINDS ITS LOCAL VOICE IN INDIA

P4

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*1. Arvind M et al. The Lancet Regional Health - Southeast Asia, 2026; 45.
*2. Shalimar et al. JCEH, 2021(12), 818-829.

Cinderella comes to stage again

'Live theatre connects audience emotionally'

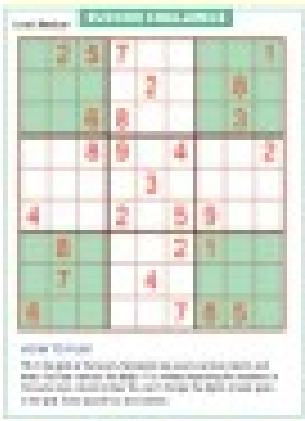
The luxury of slow-mo dining

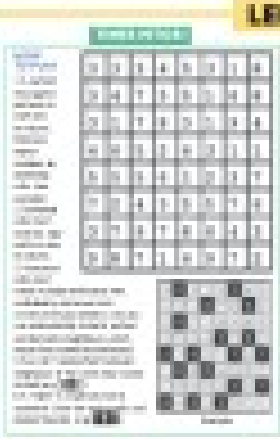
POV

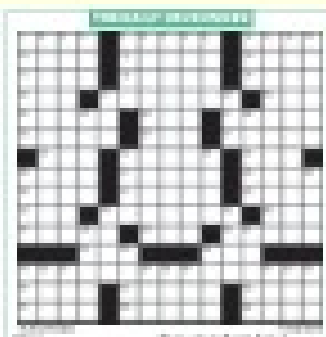
Canada to ban social media for teens under 16

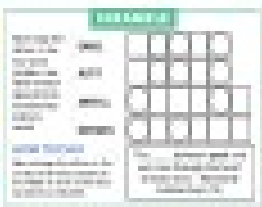
French luxury brand's latest muse: Mosquito coil

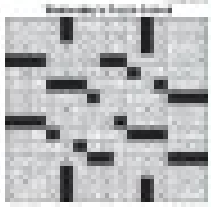
LEISURE

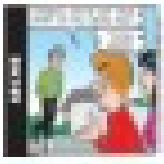


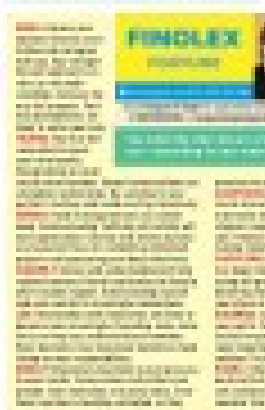


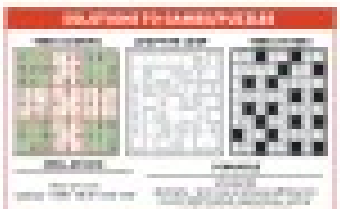












Looking to try extreme sports? Set out for drive on Haralur Rd

Lifeline for Techies, Area Lacks Basic Infra; Rain Makes It Worse

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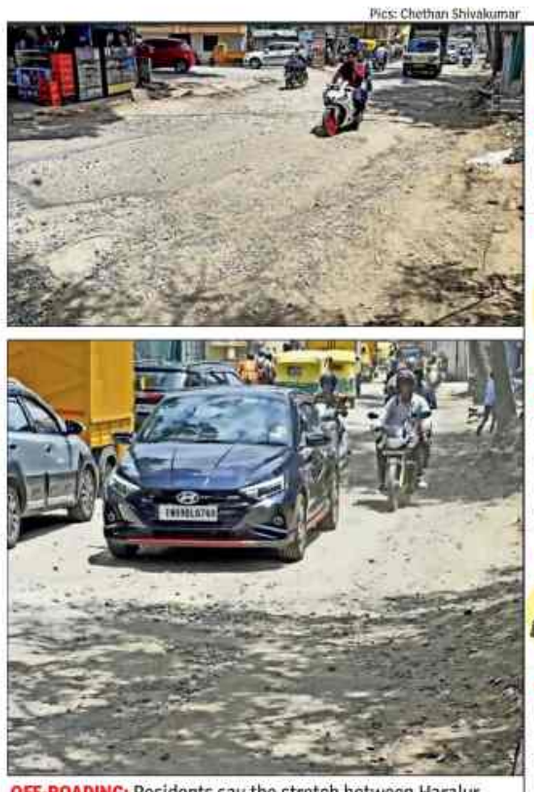
Pics: Chethan Shivakumar



Bengaluru: Familiar woes, a different address. For thousands of commuters, dodging potholes, skidding on slushy stretches and navigating overflowing sewage on Haralur Main Road are part of daily hop, skip and jump, also called city commuting.

The key arterial road, linking Sarjapur Road and Hosur Road in Bengaluru's bustling tech corridor, continues to pose serious safety risks despite being hemmed in by premium residential complexes which are home to software professionals.

Haralur Road has seen rapid growth in the past decade. The skyline has transformed dramatically, but civic infrastructure is trailing by decades. After congratulating the new chief minister, residents promptly handed him a list of long-pending civic issues demanding urgent attention just before monsoon unleashes more worries.

What was already a bumpy ride has now become a muddy obstacle course, with waterlogged potholes making it difficult for motorists to judge road conditions.

Anand Kumar, an IT professional and resident of DSR Ultima who witnessed an accident near Narayana School, said, "A rider travelling with his daughter hit a pothole and lost balance. He somehow managed to avoid a serious fall but twisted his back and could barely move. He was holding on to an electric pole in pain when I reached him. These incidents are becoming common because of the condition of roads."

Residents said the stretch between Haralur Village Junction and Birla Circle has remained in poor condition for six months. "Potholes are filled with gravel, without asphalting. Within days, the stones break loose. This is dangerous for vehicles and pedestrians," said Rohit Gurnani from Haralur.

Nikhil, a commuter for four years, called the road the "worst" he's seen. The road is narrow, constantly dug up and poorly restored. "I see at least one accident every week because of potholes, uneven patches and waterlogged stretches. During rain, it becomes more dangerous."

Residents flagged recurring drainage issues near Narayana School stretch. An uncovered stormwater drain is frequently clogged by plastic waste, causing water to overflow onto the road.

During rains, waterlogging often hides potholes and damaged patches.

Bengaluru South City Corporation said the roads and drainage were in poor condition when the area came under its jurisdiction. "We are now carrying out drain works to improve water flow. After that, we'll take up complete asphalting. We aim to complete drain works before the monsoon," said Ravi A, chief engineer of the corporation.

OFF-ROADING: Residents say the stretch between Haralur Village Junction and Birla Circle pose a safety risk due to potholes and waterlogging, causing frequent accidents

FIVE FIERY PROBLEMS

- **BROKEN ROAD:** Deep potholes and loose gravel cause near-daily skidding, posing serious risk of fatal accidents
- **WATERLOGGING AND BLOCKED DRAINS:** Choked stormwater drains lead to severe flooding during rains, hiding potholes and making roads dangerous
- **UNSAFE, ENCROACHED FOOTPATHS:** Broken footpaths and shop encroachments force pedestrians, including schoolchildren and senior citizens, onto the road
- **ILLEGAL GARBAGE DUMPING:** Vacant plots have become dumping grounds, causing foul odour, mosquito breeding and health concerns
- **SEVERE TRAFFIC GRIDLOCK:** Poor road conditions and waterlogging turn a less-than 2km stretch into a 30–45 minute commute, delaying school buses and ambulances

Couple steals ₹25 lakh from employer's house, in custody

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bhuvan Bista and Seetha Bista

Bengaluru: In a swift operation, Amruthahalli police prevented a Nepalese couple from fleeing the city with Rs 25 lakh allegedly stolen from their employer's residence and recovered the amount.

The accused, identified as Bhuvan Bista alias Pavan Bista, 35, and his wife Seetha Bista, 33, had been working as a security guard and domestic helper, respectively at a contractor's home in Arkavathi Layout. According to the complaint filed by homeowner CH Subbareddy, the cash had been withdrawn from a bank to pay construction workers and was stored in a cupboard in the house.

On May 27, the couple allegedly took advantage of the family's absence, located the key hidden elsewhere in the house, and escaped with the cash. When Subbareddy returned home, he found the couple's room empty and both their phones switched off.

A theft case was immediately registered.

Led by inspector Balaji V, the team tracked the accused to a relative's residence in Shirke Layout, Kengeri Satellite Town, within a day of the complaint.

According to senior officers, the couple's arrest on May 28 effectively blocked their escape plan. The duo allegedly confessed they'd planned to use the stolen money to fund a luxurious lifestyle in Nepal. They have been remanded to judicial custody.

Cops: Realtor in 10-day custody, dead girl's mom still absconding

▶ Continued from page 1

Priyanka had reconnected with her college friend, Mohan, and they started living at a luxury address in east Bengaluru. Mohan, a realtor, is currently in 10-day police custody. Priyanka is still elusive.

It was while returning from Hoskote that the child accidentally spilled her dessert, triggering an assault inside the vehicle, an investigating officer said.

Police are putting the MUV through advanced forensic testing to corroborate Mohan's confession with physical evidence. The forensic report is awaited.

Following a complaint from Vennela's father Praveen accusing Mohan and Priyanka of murdering the girl on March 24, Mohan was arrested on June 4. Praveen lives in Davanagere with his elder daughter.

The histopathology report indicated internal injuries in Vennela's abdomen area. **TOI** highlighted these findings in its report on June 8.

Investigation revealed Mohan is already married and has two children. However, he abandoned his family and moved into a luxury villa with Priyanka in Jan.

In his complaint, Praveen alleged Priyanka met Mohan in Nov 2025 and claimed he was her 'old lover'. In Jan, Priyanka allegedly forced Praveen to sign divorce papers.

Police learnt Mohan's legal wife tracked down the duo and engaged in a bitter public altercation with Priyanka earlier this year.

KIA to undertake taxiway upgrade work from July 9

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) is set to begin an airside infrastructure upgrade, with construction work on a new western cross-field taxiway system scheduled to run from July 9 to Nov 5. While passengers may not notice changes inside terminals, airlines, pilots and air traffic controllers are preparing for months of operational adjustments as the airport undertakes the project.

The works form part of phase 2 of the airport's western cross-field taxiway project, which aims to improve aircraft movement across the airfield and enhance long-term runway capacity. Experts say the new system will allow aircraft to move between different parts of the airport without crossing active runways, reducing congestion and improving operational efficiency.

The construction will be executed in five sub-phases, each carrying varying levels of operational impact. The most critical period will be between July 9 and July 16, when key taxiway exits H9 and H10 on Runway 09R/27L will be closed. During this one-week phase, all departures from Runway 09R will be forced to use a single access point, taxiway H8.

Industry sources said the restrictions could create challenges for wide-body aircraft such as Boeing 777, Airbus A350 and Airbus A380. "This is the most operationally sensitive phase of the project. Airlines will have to plan carefully, especially during peak traffic periods," said an airport source.

Another component of the project involves converting existing aircraft parking stands into a new taxi lane. Between Aug 23 and Sept 6, three aircraft stands in southern apron area will be removed and transformed into a new taxiway segment known as B5. Several parking positions and service lanes could experience delays during construction period.

4 miscreants get into cab, abduct and rob driver

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AI

LATE-NIGHT CHASE

Bengaluru: A routine night shift turned into a terrifying ordeal for a cab driver after four unidentified men forced their way into his vehicle, robbed him of his mobile phones and drove away with his car on June 1. Cops later traced the car using its GPS location.

According to a complaint filed by S Manu, a resident of Kittaganahalli, the incident occurred around 12:40am at Konappana Agrahara in Electronics City.

Manu, who owns the Maruti Swift Dzire, recently began working as a night-shift driver for employees of a tech company. On the night of June 1, while returning after dropping a woman employee near KR Pura bridge, Manu felt sleepy and stopped the car for tea near the company premises.

As he was about to get back into his vehicle along with the security guard, four miscreants claimed they urgently needed a ride and forcibly got into the car, leaving the guard on the road. Moments after boarding the vehicle, they allegedly forced Manu to drive around. During the ride, they threatened to attack him with an iron rod. A miscreant sitting next to Manu robbed him of his two phones and demanded their passwords. They forced him to reveal the PIN numbers of his digital payment applications before directing him to stop the car near Margondanahalli.

Manu managed to break free and ran towards a nearby apartment, where he sought help from a guard. Manu called his supervisor and asked him to track the vehicle's GPS. He found the car was moving towards Bommasandra Industrial Area. The miscreants had abandoned the vehicle there and fled after realising they're being tracked.

2 TN youths held with 2.9k intoxicating pills

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Acting on a tip-off, Cottonpet police conducted a raid on a lodge near Shantala Circle and arrested two youths from Tamil Nadu for possessing and attempting to sell a large quantity of intoxicating tablets.

The arrested are Ranjit Kumar alias Ranjit Kannan, 25, and Karthi Nagaraj, 19. According to the complaint filed by sub-inspector Pradeep Kumar HS, information was received at 5.30pm on June 7 that two suspicious persons carrying a stock of tablets had checked into a lodge near Shantala Circle.

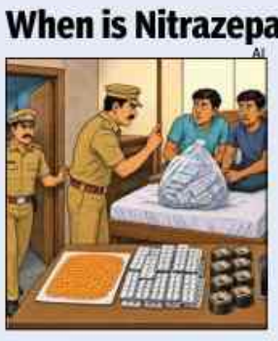
A police team, along with scene of crime officers (SOCO), rushed to the lodge at 6.45pm. They verified the lodge records and confirmed that two men from Coimbatore were staying in room no. G-12. Upon inspection, police found 1,450 saffron-coloured tablets without any label or identification mark, valued at approximately Rs 14,500, and 1,500 Nitrazepam Tablets IP (Nitzascen-10), valued at Rs 6,750, in their room.

They also seized a mobile phone allegedly used for communication with sub-peddlers and customers and for transactions. Police seized eight rolls of black cellophane tape used for packaging the tablets and Rs 580 in cash.

Police said the duo did not have any valid prescription, licence or documents authorising possession or sale of the seized tablets.

The accused reportedly told police they were working as labourers in Coimbatore and admitted that mounting debts and insufficient income had driven them to seek quick money.

When is Nitrazepam prescribed



AI

Nitrazepam is a benzodiazepine medication prescribed by doctors to treat insomnia, anxiety, alcohol withdrawal and related conditions. Its side-effects include visual problems, depression, low blood pressure and breathing difficulties. If taken with alcohol, it may lead to coma, a senior police officer said.

Man, 32, arrested for stealing, selling rental car in Kerala

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

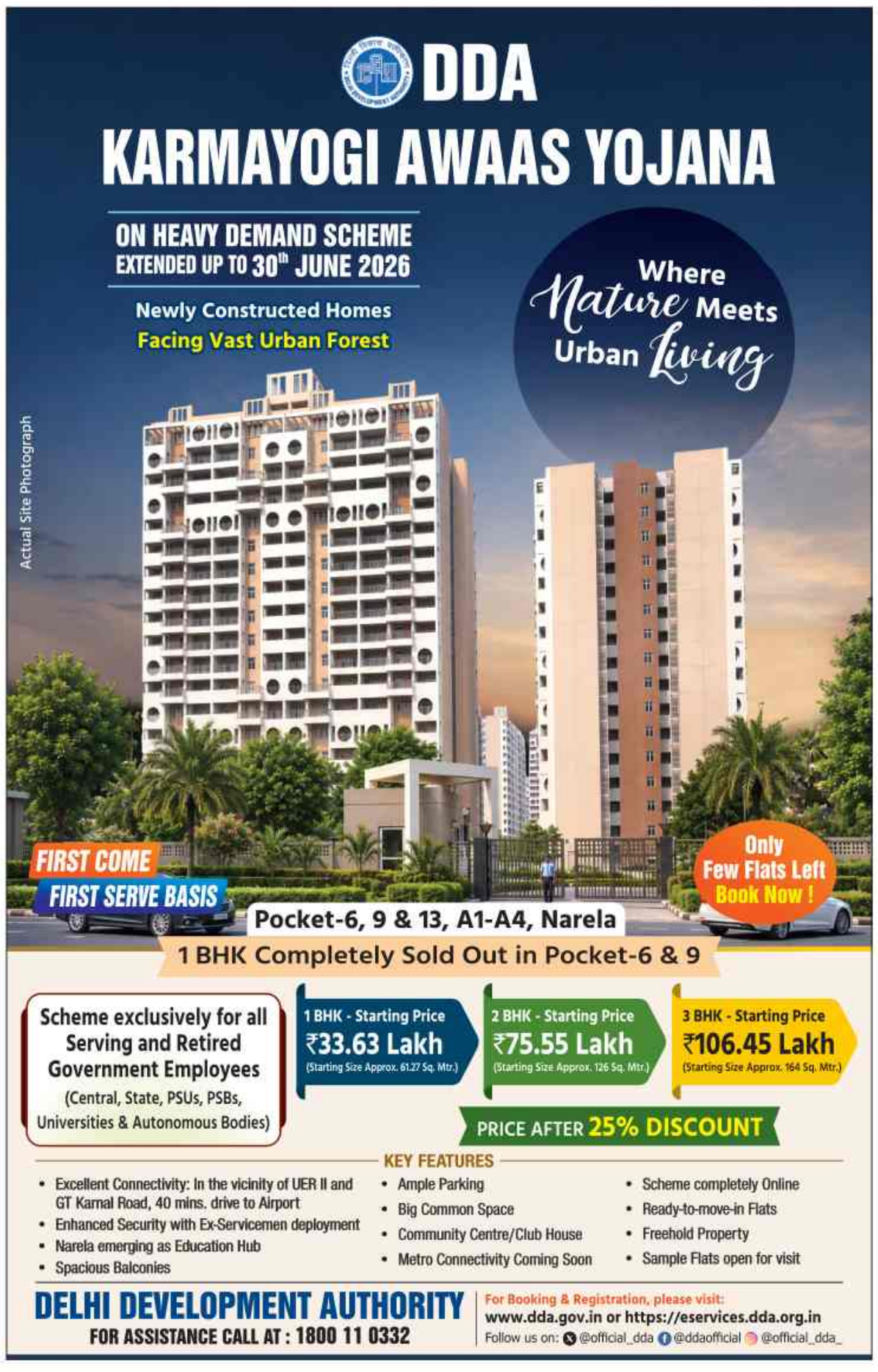
AI

Bengaluru: A 32-year-old man from Kannur, Kerala, was arrested on charges of driving away and selling a car listed on self-drive rental platform Zoomcar in April.

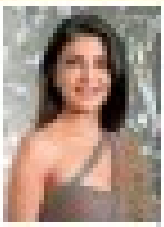
According to police, vehicle owner Syed Khadir Pasha, a resident of Padarayanapura, listed his Maruti Swift on the rental platform.

Misheal Shafeeq rented the car on April 24 but failed to return it at the scheduled time, subsequently cutting off all communication with the owner.

Police located and arrested Shafeeq on the city outskirts. He confessed to have driven the vehicle to Kerala, where he sold it after fixing a fake licence plate number and removing FASTag and GPS from the vehicle. An investigating officer said they have sent a team to Kerala to trace and seize the car.



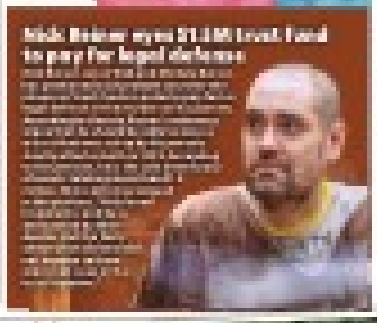
UP TO DATE WHAT'S #TRENDING AND WHY



SC to hear Jacqueline Fernandez's plea against framing of charges in money laundering case

Lisa Rinna, Mira Sorvino starrer Romy and Michele's High School Reunion sequel in production

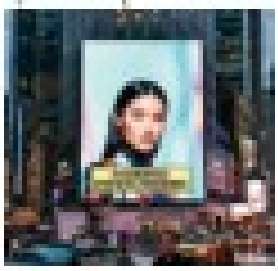
Charli XCX closes the first chapter, unveils new tour

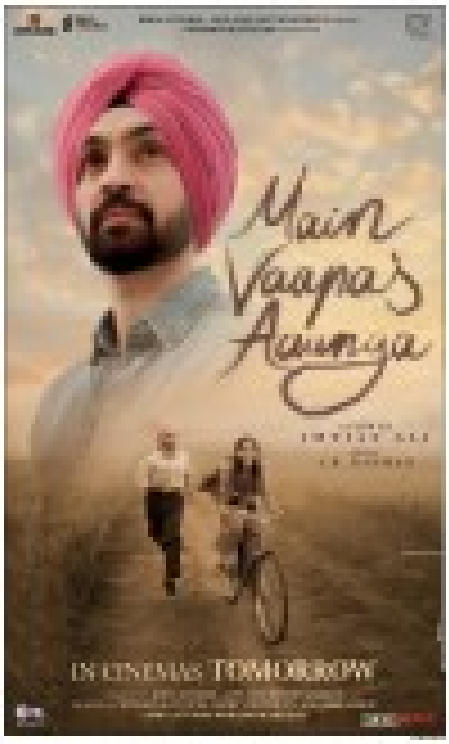


Nick Reiner eyes $1.6M trust fund to pay for legal defense

Driving into history: Princess Diana's 'revenge dress' Jaguar auctioned for £4.6k

Ads in NY must now label AI-generated 'synthetic performers'





Bad Bunny at Pope Leo in Madrid, but can't post a selfie!

Shivakumar's new sops won't be a burden on exchequer: Experts

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PTI

TOP BRASS: During his visit to Delhi on Wednesday, chief minister DK Shivakumar called on the Gandhis at 10 Janpath

Bengaluru: The eight key decisions which chief minister DK Shivakumar unveiled during his first cabinet meeting a week ago signal a continuation of welfare-focused governance while largely avoiding major new fiscal commitments, experts and officials say.

While concerns were raised that the decision could further strain the state's finances, officials say most measures remain within manageable financial limits. CMO officials say the only significant new expenditure is the proposed allocation of Rs 1,000 crore for youth clubs across the state.

"Besides this, the inclusion of male students under the free bus pass scheme will tax the govt an additional Rs 250 crore," said an official.

Among the announcements were plans to launch a labour exchange portal aimed at facilitating private-sector employment and the release of a recruitment calendar to fill 56,000 govt positions.

The cabinet also approved extending occupancy certificate and completion certificate exemptions to sites measuring up to 2,500sqft (60x40 sites), and expanding B to A-khata conversions across the state.

Human resource development

Economist Narendar Pani said the measures appeared to continue the govt's focus on guarantee schemes, albeit on a smaller scale than those introduced in 2023.

"The financial implications of the schemes do not have a major impact on the state exchequer," said Pani. He argued that if implemented effectively, the initiatives could contribute to long-term human resource development and generate broader economic benefits.

Pointing to the youth clubs proposal, he said that it could help address social issues among youngsters, including rising drug use linked to parental migration and inadequate supervision.

"A youth club may help address this issue by providing youngsters with a sporting outlet and an environment of responsibility," said Pani, adding that free bus passes may also help increase attendance in schools.

But some experts expressed reservations about expanding welfare measures, arguing that their economic impact may diminish over time. "The first five guarantees had a direct impact on the economy by increasing the purchasing power of citizens, but the new announcements are only an extension without the same impact," some experts said.

Boost for agri sector?

Attention is now on the govt's next policy moves, especially in agriculture, where Shivakumar is reportedly considering major reforms. Sources say proposals have been presented to the CM for technology initiatives designed to improve productivity while reducing fiscal pressure.

"But he has a different plan in mind, and we will have to wait and see," officials said.

Approval sought for Metro double-decker

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: CM DK Shivakumar has written to Union minister for housing and urban affairs, Manohar Lal Khattar, urging the Centre to grant immediate clearance for the proposed double-decker component of Namma Metro Phase-3, citing the need to ease Bengaluru's traffic congestion.

In a letter, Shivakumar said: "Since there is already a delay of about 2 years from Government of India sanction, it is requested that the Government of India allow BMRCL to go ahead with the Double Decker arrangement with the Metro alignment, considering the heavy traffic congestion in Bangalore (sic)," said Shivakumar in his letter.

Phase-3 of Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Ltd's (BMRCL) project, covers 44.6km and comprises only elevated corridors and was already approved by the Centre. However, the state govt proposed constructing a double-decker structure over 37.1km, featuring a road flyover at the first level and a Metro viaduct at the second level. The state is expected to bear the entire cost, estimated at Rs 9,700 crore.

In the letter, Shivakumar recalled discussions on Jan 19 regarding an alternative alignment aimed at reducing the height of the structure at a key junction. He noted that the proposal would involve significant modifications to the Phase-3 project already approved by the Centre.

"BMRCL was directed to engage M/s RITES Ltd. for a quick study of DPR and to submit a report/recommendation to MoHUA, GoI, for consideration and for taking appropriate action," read the letter.

Permission for STPs

Shivakumar also sought expedited approvals for six new sewage treatment plants (STPs) across Bengaluru. He noted that the National Apex Committee (NPS) had already approved STPs at Madiwala, Bellandur, Kadubeesanahalli, Koramangala, Byramangala and Mylasandra. The projects are estimated to cost Rs 1,350 crore and are eligible for central assistance of Rs 337.5 crore.

Shivakumar also requested clearance for other urban infrastructure initiatives, including elevated corridors and Peripheral Ring Road projects proposed under the Urban Challenge Fund.

Bond with PM goes beyond Rajya Sabha seat: Gowda

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Muthu P

GLAD TO SIT OUT! HD Deve Gowda addresses reporters in Bengaluru on Wednesday

Bengaluru: Former PM and JD(S) national president HD Deve Gowda insisted that he had not sought a Rajya Sabha seat and that his equation with Prime Minister Narendra Modi is not defined by a parliamentary seat.

Speaking to reporters at the party office in Bengaluru, Gowda said his vocation — to serve people — was not driven by a desire to enter the Upper House of Parliament. "I have spent over seven decades in public life. Public service has always been more important to me than holding office. I never demanded an RS seat," he said.

Accusing Congress functionaries of politicising the entire issue, he said that if he had wanted a Rajya Sabha seat, he would have raised it with Modi and Union home Minister Amit Shah during his visit to New Delhi on May 27. "I met them, but I did not raise the issue," he said.

Describing the discussion around his not being renominated as needless, Gowda dismissed the idea that he had been slighted. "Some people are making baseless statements. I do not attach much importance to claims that I have been humiliated. There is no meaning in such arguments," he said.

He went on to say: "If anyone thinks (the lack of) a Rajya Sabha seat can damage our relationship (with Modi) is foolishness," he said. "While I had criticised Modi in the past including for the Godhra incident, over the years I have come to understand him better, developed trust in him and appreciated the work he has done."

Commending Modi, he said the PM is respected not only in India but internationally as well. "My relationship with him is personal. Whether I am in Parliament or not, that bond will remain intact," he said.

Gowda said that while he was unhappy with remarks made by Congress office-bearers, he had no intention of replying to them. He said that although he is out of electoral politics, he would stay active in strengthening JD(S). "I will not sit idle. I will continue to work for the party and its workers," he said.

Industrial land records to be digitised

Bengaluru: Industries minister MB Patil Wednesday set a 100-day deadline for Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) to digitise records from land acquisitions to allotment of industrial plots.

Following a meeting with KIADB and industries department officials, Patil said every detail related to plots in both old and newly developed industrial areas would be digitised under the integrated land management system developed by the e-governance department.

He said 77 data fields would be recorded for each plot, including details ranging from plot allotment to current status and from industries operating on them to investments made and employment generated. It will include compensation paid to farmers, court cases, and timelines granted to investors.

Patil said, in the past, inadequate record management had led to instances where compensation was paid twice for the same parcel of land. The new system, he said, would enable investors to access the information from anywhere, eliminating the need for middlemen.

Karnataka currently has 224 industrial areas, and records relating to thousands of plots will soon be scanned and

TOI

NO FLOWERS PLEASE: Naseer Ahmed and BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan congratulate BK Hariprasad on his appointment as KPCC president in Bengaluru on Wednesday

Donate shawl money to party: Hariprasad

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Newly appointed Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president BK Hariprasad urged party functionaries and workers not to present him with shawls and flowers but instead use the money to fund the party.

Calling Indian National Congress a "political party for the poor", Hariprasad said it nationally has a fund of only Rs 700 crore as opposed to BJP which "has Rs 10,000 crore". "At least this way, money from shawls will help fill party coffers," he said.

He also endorsed home minister Priyank Kharge's comments on RSS, insisting the organisation must register. "As home minister Priyank is well within his rights and the Constitution to say what he said. and cultural organisation so it must register. If they don't, it is for the home minister to decide what action to take."

He also alleged that the decision to scrap Congress nominee Meenakshi Natarajan's Rajya Sabha application from MP "shows BJP has moved from vote chori to seat chori".

Meanwhile Rajya Sabha MP GC Chandrashekar said Hariprasad will take oath on June 21 and a grand celebration is scheduled at Palace Grounds. Chandrashekar praised Hariprasad and said his journey reflects his growth from being an ordinary party worker to a state Congress president.

Drawing a parallel with DK Shivakumar's path from party worker to chief minister, Chandrashekar said their journeys and work would serve as a

Byre Gowda to resolve imbroglio with DKS

Bengaluru: Minister **Krishna Byre Gowda**, who has been in Delhi for two days to sort out concerns over the pared Bengaluru Development portfolio, met Congress brass Wednesday as efforts continued to resolve the issue.

Byre Gowda also held discussions with CM DK Shivakumar and sources say both agreed to find a mutual solution. "While he met the CM in Delhi, a final round of talks is expected to be held in Bengaluru. They are expected to sort out the issue among themselves," said sources.

Sources say Byre Gowda may be asked to formally assume charge of the portfolio and begin work, while his concerns could be considered

Industries minister MB Patil downplayed the controversy, describing it as a "minor" issue. "Look at the Ramalinga Reddy issue, it was sorted by party brass. Similarly, this too will also be resolved," said Patil, claiming that the issue was being blown up by the media.

Earlier Wednesday, Byre Gowda and several Congress legislators, including Shivajinagar MLA Rizwan Arshad, are understood to have met Committee brass in Delhi. Sources say they are expected to hold a final round of discussions with AICC general secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala on Thursday before returning to Bengaluru. They also discussed cabinet expansion, expected after June 20,

Cong to receive ₹10k-cr kickback for waste tender, claims Ashoka

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Opposition leader **R Ashoka** Wednesday alleged that the Rs 39,437-crore waste management contract awarded by the state govt to a Delhi-based firm involved kickbacks worth Rs 10,000 crore to Congress party.

Ashoka told reporters that MSWS Solutions Ltd's 30-year contract was approved despite objections from ministers and finance department officials. He alleged former CM Siddaramaiah had cleared the proposal citing directions from "above".

He claimed the govt and civic agencies currently spend Rs 1,344 crore annually on waste collection, disposal and salaries in Bengaluru, and the expenditure includes Rs 514 crore on waste collection and transportation, Rs 380 crore for processing and disposal, and Rs 44 crore in salaries for around 11,000 pourakarmikas.

"Earlier, local contractors handled the work through BBMP. Now, instead of the usual annual tender, a 30-year contract with a possible 5-year extension has been awarded to MSWS Solutions Ltd or its parent company, Ramky," alleged Ashoka.

He said the finance department had raised concerns over awarding both north and south packages to a single firm, the lengthy posed 5% annual escalation clause. "It advised reducing the period to 10 years and the escalation to 2.5%, warning that it could become a huge burden on BBMP in future," said Ashoka, citing a letter by ACS (finance) Ritesh Kumar Singh to the CM.

He also alleged Ramky had faced regulatory action in the past, and "even the World Bank had blacklisted it for fraud and violation of rules".

"In 2016, BBMP itself cancelled Ramky's contract," he said. Ashoka met governor Thaawar Chand Gehlot and submitted a formal complaint seeking a detailed investigation into alleged irregularities in the

Saul Kere STP works expose coordination gaps between civic agencies

Sanjay.Murty@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Confusion over approvals for a BWSSB sewage treatment plant (STP) expansion at Saul Kere near Bellandur has exposed a lack of coordination between agencies responsible for works in and around the city's lakes.

Bengaluru East City Corporation (BECC) executive engineer Bhooprada said, "BWSSB claimed they applied for permission with Karnataka Tank Conservation and Development Authority, but the latter has not sent us any response."

BECC chief engineer M Lokesh said though the project was discussed earlier, BWSSB hasn't sought the corporation's approval, which is needed as lake falls under the corporation's jurisdiction.

A BWSSB official said the project has been approved by the govt and was presented to BECC commissioner and GBA chief commissioner.

BWSSB additional chief engineer (projects-2) Venugopal KL, added, "We are only upgrading an existing STP."

Another BWSSB official said, "Since we are upgrading an existing STP by taking just half an acre of land, there will be no need for a separate approval."

Work on STP expansion was halted by BECC officials Tuesday after they were unable to verify whether the project had secured the required approvals or not.

Moment of glory for school educators

The 4th edition of Excellence in Teaching Awards celebrated exceptional educators from low-fee private schools across Bangalore. The annual initiative, supported by Raintree Schools, KReate Foundation, and Games for Ed, received over 100 applications from more than 20 schools.

Founded by chairman of Raintree Schools Jayant Gauri and head of research at Wayground Prasanth Nori, the awards have grown steadily over four years into one of India's leading recognitions for teachers in affordable private schools.

RECOGNISING CONTRIBUTIONS

The first prize, titled Grand Master Educator, was awarded to Ismath Gouhar of BET Royal Kidz Montessori School. The Distinguished Educator (second prize) went to Hemavathi of GK National Public School, while Umme Mehak, also of GK National Public School, was recognized as Rising Educator (third prize).

In addition, three special prizes were announced: Shruthi Raj D of BNM Public School received Climate Change Prize, Chandra Sunil of BNM Public School took home Sustainability Prize and Raintree Prize was awarded to Mussarath Asma of Raintree School, Mysuru Road.

The jury comprised consultant at Oxford Policy Management, Tanya Kant; co-founder at Wayground, Deepak Cheenath; and co-founder at Games for Ed Abhijith Giridhar. "These are teachers who show up every day bringing magic to their classrooms, but remain largely unrecognized," said Jayant, who is on a mission to uplift students as part of his work with Raintree Schools. The guests of honour included Abhijith Giridhar; creative education influencer, Rajesh Bhat P; lead at KReate Foundation, Sneha Suresh and co-founder of Games for Ed, Meha Wadher.

Annual day explores emotions, experiences

Air Force School ASTE celebrated Pratibimb – The Contrast Within recently. The annual day event explored the idea that life extends beyond stark black-and-white contrasts, reflecting instead the emotions individuals experience, the lives they lead and the journeys they carry within.

VIBRANT PERFORMANCES

An array of performances was presented in a monochrome theme, offering a visually striking and cohesive narrative. Each programme conveyed layers of emotion and introspection, lending both artistic depth and thematic clarity. Air Commodore Vivart Singh was the chief guest and commended the efforts of students and staff. The programme concluded on a high note, presenting a nuanced portrayal of contrasts and connections that shape human experiences.

Top seeds battle it out at 3-star national squash tournament

The five-day squash extravaganza, GEAR Squash Open 2026, concluded at GEAR Innovative International School with high-intensity finals that saw top seeds battle for national glory.

The 3-star national level tournament, held in collaboration with Indian School of Sports, saw Maharashtra's Rahul Baitha and Rajasthan's Yashi Jain emerge as men's and women's champions, respectively.

SPORTSMANSHIP

In the men's final, Rahul Baitha (MH) displayed clinical precision to defeat Kunal Singh (MP). In the women's category, Yashi Jain (RJ) left no room for error, overpowering Khushboo (UP) in straight sets to secure gold.

Local favourite and India rank no. 1 Aryaman Singh (KR) delighted the home crowd in the boys' U-17 category with his superior court craft to overcome Tamil Nadu's Mihir Bopana. In another major highlight, the girls' U-13 final was an all-Karnataka affair, with top seed Akshara Makhija defeating teammate Sameeksha Sugumar 11-7, 11-5, 11-2.

In the boys' U-19 category, Tamil Nadu's Darshil Parasrampuria stunned top seed Rahul Sanjay Balakrishnan (KR). In Masters' categories, Mahesh Kadam (MH) took home MO35 title. Sandeep Subramanya (KR) claimed MO45 trophy, while Anoop Kabadwal (KR) pulled off a surprise win in MO55 final.

Other notable junior winners included Vedant Shinde (MH) in BU11, Thanuj Reddy Puli (TS) in BU13 and Rishabh Shyam (MH) in BU15.

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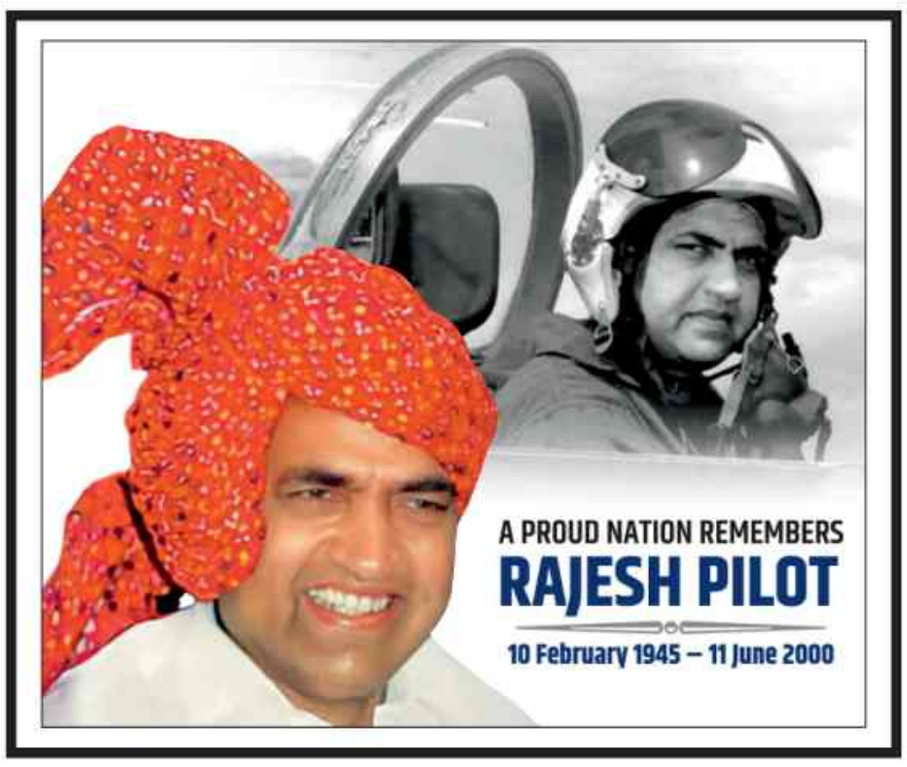
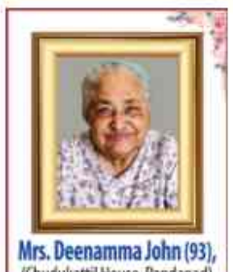


OBITUARY
SAD DEMISE



Mrs. Deenamma John (93), (Chudukattil House, Pandanad), wife of late Mr N M John (Nirannanilathu House, Kumplampoika), passed away in Bengaluru. The funeral service and burial will be held on 11 June from 11:00 a.m. at the family cemetery in Bannarahalli, Bengaluru. Mrs. Deenamma John served for many years as the Nursing Superintendent at Khoula Hospital, Muscat. She is survived by her sons:
• Abey John (Bengaluru)
• Alexander John (Dubai)
May her soul rest in peace.

†
Forever in our hearts

Jayasuria Balaraj
25/07/1949 - 09/06/2026
S/o. late Prema & Chev. D.J. Balaraj I.A.S. Retd
Husband of Geetha Veronica Balaraj,
Father of Dinesh, Nickren & Lavinia.
Funeral on 11/06/2026
Paying last respects at 2.30pm
followed by mass at 3.00pm
at Holy Ghost Church, Richards Town
Burial thereafter at Kalpalli Catholic Cemetery

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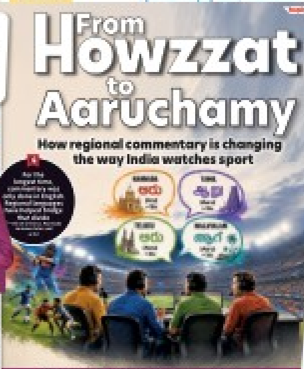
If you can't outplay them, outwork them. – Ben Hogan

From Howzzat to Aaruchamy

How regional commentary is changing the way India watches sport

KANNADA

TAMIL



TAMIL

MALAYALAM & TAMIL

REGIONAL COMMENTARY HAS AN EMOTIONAL TOUCH

BY THE NUMBERS – THE REGIONAL COMMENTARY BOOM

1

12

15-20

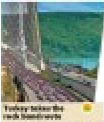
70-75

39%

REGIONAL COMMENTARY IS NOW AVAILABLE ACROSS

Why regional commentary is winning

Send-offs or movie sets? Teams hit the road for World Cup



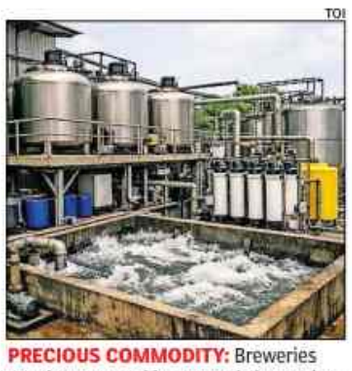
Behind your beer: Breweries cut water use, recycle more

Vindhya.Pabolu@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Did you know at least five litres of water is required to produce one litre of beer? But where does all that water go?

In Bengaluru, home to nearly 88 breweries, the industry is increasingly focused on reducing its water footprint through a combination of effluent treatment plants, wastewater recycling systems and circular waste management practices.

According to Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), breweries, pubs and other food and beverage establishments are required to install and operate effluent treatment plants (ETPs) and comply with strict waste management norms as part of their consent to establish (CTE) and consent to operate (CTO) approvals.


TOI

PRECIOUS COMMODITY: Breweries say they are working towards improving water-to-beer ratios and expanding wastewater treatment capacity

Breweries **TOI** spoke to said they are also working towards improving water-to-beer ratios and expanding wastewater treatment capacity. Many are using effluent treatment plants, IoT-based monitoring systems and process innovations such as CIP systems, heat exchangers and RO recovery to reduce freshwater consumption and improve resource efficiency. Treated wastewater is being reused for non-product applications, while by-products like spent grain are diverted for cattle feed and other uses, and packaging waste is systematically recycled.

Nikhil Menon, co-founder & COO, Mannheim Craft Brewery, said: "We use less than 4.5 litres of water to produce one litre of beer and aim to bring this below 4:1 through real-time monitoring. Wastewater is treated at our on-site ETP and reused for public green spaces and construction activities. We also follow a circular waste management model, diverting spent grain for cattle feed and recycling glass, paper, plastic and metal through authorised channels."

Megha Dalimbe, master brewer at Byg Brewski, said: "We monitor water use batch-wise, reuse rinse water wherever possible and treat brewery wastewater for activities such as gardening and cleaning. We also repurpose spent grain as cattle feed, recycle packaging materials, and continue investing in water recycling and waste management despite the significant costs involved."

Aadithya Eashwaran, executive director and head brewer at American Brew Works, said: "We reduce freshwater consumption by treating wastewater for reuse, recycling cooling water, using automated cleaning systems, and capturing reject water from our RO plant. We also improve fermentation efficiency to minimise beer loss and, in larger operations, recover and reuse CO_2 generated during fermentation as part of our sustainability efforts."

Industry players say the transition comes with challenges. Setting up and maintaining effluent treatment plants, water recycling systems and CO_2 recovery units requires significant capital investment. In addition, processes such as yeast recovery and wastewater reuse require careful monitoring and operational planning to remain effective at scale.

Shivkumar Eashwaran, chairman, Indian Chamber of Commerce, said: "Organised large breweries generally follow strict sustainability norms, including low water usage and in-house consumption that avoids plastic packaging as beer is served in glass. Overall, the system is designed to ensure near-complete reuse of inputs and minimal environmental impact, unlike smaller, less regulated units."

Bangla man held for illegal stay; 2 landowners booked

Bengaluru: A Bangladeshi man staying illegally in a shed at Bellahalli village was detained during a verification drive against foreign nationals in the city. Police booked two landowners for allegedly sheltering him and failing to inform authorities.

VERIFICATION DRIVE

On June 7, inspector Prasheela BS of Bagalur police station directed her subordinates to identify and verify foreign nationals residing within the jurisdiction. Acting on a tipoff, a team inspected a cluster of sheds located at Bellahalli village near Yelahanka.

Information received indicated that several migrant workers from Assam and West Bengal were engaged as ragpickers and residing in temporary sheds at the location. During the verification process, one resident was unable to produce valid identity or residency documents.

On further inquiry, the man identified himself as Shakib alias Md Abujar Sojib, 22, a native of Rayenda village in Bagerhat district, Bangladesh. He reportedly confessed to having entered India illegally via Assam border about a year ago. He had been working as a ragpicker for a mason in the city while staying in a shed on land owned by Syed Sameer and Syed Naseer. TNN

HC issues SOP for inclusive access for disabled in bldgs

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Bengaluru: Karnataka high court has laid down a comprehensive standard operating procedure to ensure universal accessibility for persons with disabilities (PwDs), mandating compliance across a wide range of spaces — from govt offices and public and commercial buildings to hospitals, schools, transport systems, religious and cultural sites and residential developments.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj issued these guidelines while deciding the petition filed by a Bengaluru-based private school against the order passed by the state commissioner for PwDs, Karnataka, in favour of a teacher who became disabled following a freak incident in 2013.

The court directed the chief secretary/principal secretary of women and child development department to set up a State Accessibility Authority in six months to enable monitoring as well as enforcement of accessibility norms in all buildings. Similarly, district accessibility committees must be set up across the state in six months. The court also directed the state govt to frame accessibility rules and appoint nodal officers for enforcement of these regulations.

NORMS TO FOLLOW IN CONSTRUCTIONS

1. No occupancy certificate will be issued for any public building unless it fully complies with accessibility requirements under Section 44 of the Act and Harmonised Guidelines-2021. This requirement is non-negotiable, and no waiver shall be granted
2. Occupancy certificate for a public building will be issued only after final accessibility audit by an empanelled auditor confirms compliance with the guidelines
3. Grant or renewal of trade licences for all establishments occupying public buildings will be made only after issuance of accessibility certification
4. All public buildings shall have at least one step-free access route from the public footpath or road to the principal functional areas of the building

5. Ramps with gradient not exceeding 1:12 (preferred 1:15 where space permits) shall be provided at all principal entrances, with handrails on both sides and anti-slip surfaces. Principal entrances shall have automatic doors, sliding doors, or doors with lever handles (not knob handles)
6. Provision of reserved accessible parking spaces as close as possible to the accessible entrance. A minimum 2% of total spaces, or at least one space (whichever is greater) have to be reserved for PwDs. For high-footfall buildings (malls, airports, stadia), minimum 2% with a floor of four spaces should be demarcated. The parking bay should have a minimum width of 3,600 mm to allow wheelchair transfer from vehicle
7. Provision of gender-neutral accessible toilets wherever feasible to accommodate transgender persons with disabilities and those requiring attendant assistance. For persons requiring catheter care or other medical procedures, a clean, private, accessible space shall be designated and maintained for this purpose
8. Every establishment must frame, notify, display and register an equal opportunity policy (EOP) under Section 21 of PWD Act read with Rule 8 of the Rules within six months

DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY COMPLIANCE

1. All digital platforms and systems operated by or on behalf of govt establishments must comply with WCAG 2.1 Level AA as the minimum standard for all govt websites, portals and applications
2. Provision of screen-reader compatibility for all content and full keyboard navigation without dependence on a mouse, closed captions for all audio-visual content, Indian Sign Language (ISL) video interpretation for key govt information, text alternatives for all non-text content and adjustable text size and contrast settings

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

1. All schools must have written inclusive education policies covering all disability types and all genders, including transgender students
2. No student with a disability can be refused admission solely on account of disability. Educational institutions need to conduct inclusion feasibility assessments. All specified disabilities, not limited to physical or locomotor disability, shall be accommodated

No cancellation of suspects' bail

Bengaluru: The high court Wednesday dismissed a petition filed by Kamakshipalya police seeking cancellation of bail granted to five accused in Renukaswamy murder case. Actor Darshan and his friend Pavitra Gowda are the two main accused.

DARSHAN CASE

Justice S Rachaiah rejected the petitions wherein police sought cancellation of bail granted to Dhanraju D (accused no. 9), Puttaswamy alias Pavan K and Raghavendra (accused nos. 3 and 4), Nandeesh (accused no. 5) and V Vinay (accused no. 10). These five were granted bail by the trial court on Dec 23, 2024, two weeks after Darshan and others were given bail by high court.

Govt sets up panel after ex-MLA flags ₹80-crore Kolar land scam

Pavan Kumar Pateel & Ranganath K | TNN

Bengaluru: A high-level committee of senior revenue officials will probe the multi-crore land scam involving alleged large-scale forgery of revenue records and illegal takeover of over 16 acres of govt land in KG Thornahalli village in Malur taluk of Kolar district.

The govt's decision to set up the panel comes a day after former Malur MLA KS Manjunatha Gowda raised the issue. Gowda alleged that the land was originally recorded as govt property in official records as early as 1961. However, he claimed that subsequent documents were fabricated to show that the

land had been granted to a group of farmers on Jan 14, 1963, and later sold to a Bengaluru resident. According to him, the current market value of the disputed land is estimated to exceed Rs 80 crore.

Supporting his claims, the former MLA submitted documentation of original records to tahsildar Roopa. He alleged that no records exist for the land between 1963 and 2024, and that the issue came to light only when an application was made for a certified copy of documents in 2024. He said the shirastedar overseeing the land records section had indicated possible irregularities. "The tahsildar, after noticing doubts expressed by lower-rank officials, should have cross-checked the documents. But they failed to do so and were cleared to issue a khata," he alleged.

Following the allegations, Rajendra Kumar Kataria, IAS, additional chief secretary, revenue department, constituted a committee comprising four senior revenue officials to collect all original documents and compare them with the records alleged to be forged.

Kataria said the committee will gather details and submit a report.

Young docs reluctant to take up contract jobs: Min

▶ Continued from page 1

Young doctors are reluctant to take up contract jobs because of concerns over job security. To address this, we are proposing that they be absorbed into our permanent workforce," Khader said while discussing the action plan to address shortage of doctors.

On the lines of a walk-in interview, doctors who have completed MBBS or postgraduate studies can apply through the district health officer (DHO). "After consultation with the deputy commissioner and approval, they will receive their appointment order within a week," he said, adding that MBBS graduates will receive a salary of monthly salary of Rs 60,000, while specialists will be paid Rs 1.1 lakh.

MBBS doctors who complete five years of service will be given an opportunity to pursue postgraduate degrees, provided they choose specialisations required by the health department.

Doctors who volunteer to serve in rural areas, including border districts, tribal regions and forest areas, will receive an additional incentive of around Rs 15,000 over and above their salary.

To address the issue of staff shortage in rural areas, the department also plans to recruit retired doctors, who are physically and mentally fit. "In the initial phase, we want to recruit doctors in the 60–70 age group on a contract basis," he said.

The department will also constitute four advisory committees — state vision committee, mental health committee, cochlear implant committee and oral health committee — to focus on targeted interventions in these areas. "They will serve as a bridge between citizens and the department," Khader said.

Woman shoots herself dead

Chikkamagaluru: A 55-year-old woman allegedly shot herself dead in Chikkamagaluru Wednesday.

Police said, Suma, the wife of coffee planter Rajesh, used her husband's licensed revolver at their residence in Halenahalli.

PLANTER'S WIFE

Cops said a death note was recovered, in which Suma mentioned she was responsible for her death.

SP Jitendra Kumar Dayama said according to her family, Suma was mentally ill and was undergoing treatment in Shivamogga and Chikkamagaluru.

Police said the reason behind the death is yet to be ascertained, and investigation is on. TNN

HC upholds ₹10L compensation for teacher in freak school accident

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: The state commissioner for persons with disabilities (PwDs), constituted under Section 79 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act-2016, has the jurisdiction and authority to issue binding corrective directions against private establishments, including orders directing payment of compensation, the high court said.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj issued this ruling, upholding the Rs 10-lakh compensation awarded to Barnali Rout, a teacher working with PSBB Learning Leadership Academy at Jigani in Bengaluru.

On Aug 22, 2013, a class VI student altered her marks in certain subject papers, prompting an inquiry by teachers. Fearing disciplinary action, the student moved to a windowsill between the ground and first floor of the school building and threatened to jump. While staff members attempted to calm her and prevent any harm, Barnali Rout tried to reach the windowsill in an effort to rescue the student.

However, she lost her footing and fell to the ground floor, sustaining serious injuries. On witnessing the incident, the student panicked and jumped as well. The school management later bore approximately Rs 11.6 lakh towards Barnali Rout's treatment. In 2019, Rout approached the state commissioner for persons with disabilities (PwDs), seeking Rs 60 lakh as compensation. On June 12, 2020, the commissioner awarded her Rs 10 lakh.

Challenging the same, the school management argued it is a private institution and the state commissioner for PwDs has no jurisdiction.

Justice Govindaraj said, "The commissioner had the power under Section 80(b) read with Section 81 of the Disabilities Act of 2016 to inquire into the deprivation of the teacher's rights and to issue directions for corrective action. The direction to pay Rs 10 lakh is a legitimate exercise of compensatory power."

Vacation mode over: Monsoon, school reopening amplify seasonal infections

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Bengaluru: The onset of monsoon and reopening of schools have triggered a rise in seasonal illnesses across Bengaluru, with doctors reporting an increase in both respiratory and gastrointestinal infections over the past few weeks. They say they see at least ten patients a day.

"Typically, changes in temperature, humidity and rainfall create conditions that facilitate the spread of viral infections and other seasonal illnesses," said Dr Ashwin Kulkarni, consultant, department of general medicine, Ramaiah Memorial Hospital.

Doctors said the most common illnesses currently include viral upper respiratory tract infections, seasonal flu-like illnesses and acute gastroenteritis. Patients are reporting symptoms such as fever, sore throat, cough, nasal congestion, headaches, body aches and fatigue.

Alongside respiratory infections, hospitals are also witnessing a rise in stomach-related illnesses. "We are seeing cases of diarrhoea, vomiting and stomach infections, often linked to contaminated food or water," Dr Kulkarni pointed out.

PRECAUTIONS YOU MUST TAKE

- Wash hands regularly and maintain good hygiene
- Drink safe water and eat freshly prepared food
- Avoid stagnant water and mosquito-breeding areas
- Get adequate sleep and follow a balanced diet
- Keep chronic conditions such as diabetes, asthma and heart disease under control
- Seek medical help for persistent fever, breathing difficulty, dehydration or worsening symptoms

Summer travel contributes to spread of illness

Summer travel has contributed to the spread of illnesses. "During vacation, many people travelled to places with extremely hot weather and came back with dehydration and fatigue. Among the elderly, we are observing disturbance in electrolyte balance. Be it trains, buses or flights – public transport vehicles are fully packed in this season, and this close contact leads to infections spreading faster," said Dr TR Hemkumar, HOD and lead consultant, internal medicine, Kauvery Hospital, Marathahalli.

Doctors noted that children returning to classrooms after nearly two months at home are being exposed to viruses and bacteria, leading to rapid spread of infections. "Among kids, we are primarily seeing respiratory infections. If one child goes to school with an infection, then within no time, half of the class falls sick," said Dr Aditya S Chowti, director, internal medicine, TriLife Hospital.

Several parents reported that their children fell sick within days of returning to school and had to take leave soon after. Prema R, a homemaker from Nandini Layout, said her son, a class V student, developed cold, cough and viral fever. "This happens every year in the first few weeks of school reopening. Four days after school reopened, some kids in my son's institution were coughing and developing a cold and soon, it spread to my son as we had expected," she said.

Doctors said water-borne diseases are increasing because of contamination caused by rain and waterlogging. "We are seeing a spike in typhoid cases and diarrhoea too. With waterlogging everywhere, dengue and malaria cases might also surface in the coming weeks," Dr Chowti said.

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TIMES NATION

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2026

RAHUL'S APPROACH TO CASTE LACKS GRASSROOTS UNDERSTANDING: ANDHRA DEPUTY CM PAWAN KALYAN

PM NARENDRA MODI BROUGHT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ON EVERY HARYANA VISIT, SAYS CHIEF MINISTER SAINI

HACK OF THE DAY USE MAPS INCOGNITO FOR PRIVATE SEARCHES

WHAT IT SOLVES: Lets you navigate to sensitive places without those searches being saved to your Google Maps

WHAT TO DO: Turn on Incognito mode before searching for places you do not want seen with normal recommendations

STEPS:

1. **Open** Google Maps
2. **Tap** your profile picture
3. **Choose** Turn on Incognito mode
4. **Search** or navigate as needed
5. **Turn off** Incognito mode when you want normal saved history and personalisation again

NOTE: Some Maps features are not available in Incognito mode. Use it only when privacy matters

SCAN FOR MORE

Hacks are based on verified public sources. Readers are advised to follow official websites & updated rules

Bharuch double murder: Doctor's father kills daughter-in-law, her mother

A 70-year-old man killed his daughter-in-law and her mother in Bharuch in Gujarat, driven by frustration over long-standing marital discord between his son and his daughter-in-law, police said on Wednesday, **reports Vishal Patadiya.** Police said the accused, Zainul Zanorwala, later attempted suicide by slitting his throat and, that, he was taken to a private hospital where he is under treatment. The incident occurred at the residence of Dr Yusuf Zanorwala, 43, a homoeopathic practitioner and son of the accused. Police said Zainul first attacked and fatally stabbed his daughter-in-law, Alifiya, 35. Even after the assault, he was so enraged that he went to the Vohrawad locality, where Alifiya's mother, Shehnaz Namakwala, 60, lived and killed her as well. M M Ganguly, DySP, told TOI: "Dr Yusuf runs two clinics in Bharuch, one of which operates from the ground floor of his residence in Kothi area. The couple's marriage was troubled by frequent quarrels, and Zainul was deeply unhappy about the situation. Preliminary investigation suggests that he first killed Alifiya and then went to her mother's house and killed her." Dr Yusuf and Alifiya were married for 18 years and have two daughters, aged 16 and 12. Dr Yusuf's parents lived separately from the couple.

STATOISTICS A slice of life in numbers

Half the world's food trade, just 10 countries

From grains to processed foods, the global food trade is increasingly concentrated among a few exporters. Just 10 countries account for nearly half of the world's $1.5 trillion agricultural exports, giving them outsized influence over global food prices and trade flows

Source: Visual Capitalist

EC mapping flags 88L voter anomalies before T'gana SIR

78% Of Mapped Electors In Quthbullapur Marked For Verification

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Hyderabad: Telangana's pre-Special Intensive Revision (SIR) voter-mapping exercise has thrown up a major challenge. The chief electoral officer (CEO) has flagged over 88 lakh (88,13,207) electors with anomalies across the state. The highest rate has been recorded in Quthbullapur assembly constituency, where 78% of mapped electors have been marked for verification, far above the state average of 37%.

Based on the district-wise and assembly constituency-wise elector mapping reports till June 4, the state has completed mapping of 2,32,96,233 electors, making up 68.7% of the total 3.39 crore electors. Telangana CEO Sudharshan Reddy told TOI, "There are 11 types of anomalies identified during pre-SIR mapping. These are being compared with the 2002 base pre-SIR mapping. In cases of minor anomalies, notices will be issued and hearings conducted. After examining the clarification and documents produced, the electors will be cleared. We are hoping that 90% of such anomalies will be corrected."

> After examining clarification and documents, electors will be cleared. We are hoping that 90% of such anomalies will be corrected
> — Sudharshan Reddy | T CEO

The CEO said the situation had improved slightly in Hyderabad, Rangareddy and Medchal Malkajgiri, though these districts were still among the lowest in mapping progress. At the assembly constituency level, the highest anomaly rates were concentrated in Hyderabad's growth corridors.

Quthbullapur in Medchal Malkajgiri topped the state with 78.%, followed by Lal Bahadur Nagar in Rangareddy at 74%, Uppal in Medchal Malkajgiri at 73%, Serilingampally in Rangareddy at 72.%, Kukatpally at 60%, Malkajgiri at 59%, Rajendranagar at 57%, Nizamabad Urban at 54% and Patancheru in Sangareddy at 54%.

The data suggests that fast urbanisation, migration, apartment living, voter mobility, duplicate entries and old addresses could be contributing to the higher anomaly load in urban constituencies. The outer Hyderabad belt — Quthbullapur, Kukatpally, Uppal, Malkajgiri, Lal Bahadur Nagar, Serilingampally, Rajendranagar and Patancheru — features prominently among the constituencies with the highest percentage of flagged records.

Mapping progress and data quality, however, are not the same. The anomalies identified in the pre-SIR mapping include age and relationship mismatches when compared with the previous SIR records. These include less than nine months gap between electors mapped as siblings, less than 15 years' age gap between parent and progeny, more than 50 years age gap between progeny and parent, and less than 40 years gap between elector and grandparent.

British police provide security to ex-Bby HC judge, family in London

Naomi Canton

London: The UK police are providing security to former Bombay high court judge Gautam Patel and his family in London after they have faced threats and attacks.

The daughter of Patel, a British citizen, received a death threat letter at her London home on June 5, just weeks after a physical assault. On Monday Patel said in London that his daughter had also been attacked near her home while dropping her children off at school by a masked hooded man who punched her repeatedly in the face.

The death threat was in response to a judgment passed by him in April 2024, Patel said. The case, which is pending appeal, sought to establish the succession and name of the Syedna, spiritual leader of the Dawoodi Bohra community. In that judgment Justice Patel upheld the claim of Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin as the 53rd Dai and incumbent leader of the Dawoodi Bohra community.

Over the past 10 months, the Patel family have received several anonymous threat letters, including one which accused Patel of having delivered his judgment "fraudulently, under pressure". A spokesperson for Hertfordshire Constabulary said: "Detectives from Hertfordshire Constabulary's criminal investigation department are currently investigating a series of linked incidents relating to a family living in South Hertfordshire."

"As part of the investigation, safeguarding measures have been provided to the family," the spokesperson said.

U'khand HC directs teen couple to register under UCC provisions

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Court granted police protection to a teenage live-in couple who approached HC after allegedly facing threats from the woman's family over their decision to live together before marriage

Dehradun: Uttarakhand high court granted police protection to a teenage live-in couple who approached the court after allegedly facing threats from the woman's family over their decision to live together before marriage, and directed them to register their relationship under the state's Uniform Civil Code (UCC) provisions within a reasonable time.

The couple, a 19-year-old woman and an 18-year-old man from the same religious background, told the court that they had been living together for about a month and intended to marry once the man reached the statutory age for marriage. Since the man is below the legal marriage age of 21, the couple sought protection for their present live-in arrangement rather than immediate marriage.

Justice Alok Mahra found that a prima facie case had been made out for extending protection and directed the station house officer of Bajpur in Udham Singh Nagar district to assess the threat perception and provide appropriate security if any real danger was established.

The court also directed that those allegedly issuing threats be counselled to follow the law and maintain lawful conduct.

Advocate Rahul Adhikari, appearing for the couple, told TOI that the woman had studied up to Class 10, while the man worked as a daily-wage labourer and occasionally drove commercial vehicles. "They have both been living in the same locality for a long time. Upon learning of their relationship, the woman's uncle, brother and cousins became angry and opposed their decision to live together," Adhikari said.

The petitioners argued that the threats violated their right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution.

Their counsel relied on earlier judgments, including Supreme Court's ruling in Lata Singh vs State of UP, to submit that the right to choose a partner is part of personal liberty and cannot be obstructed by family members or community pressure.

VinFast plans ₹7k-cr expansion in TN to make e-scooters, buses

Chennai: Vietnamese EV maker VinFast has proposed a ₹7,000-crore Phase II expansion at its Tuticorin manufacturing complex, widening its production portfolio beyond passenger cars to include electric scooters and buses. The expansion would significantly increase the scale of operations at the factory located in the southern TN port city and is expected to transform the unit from a modest electric car plant into a manufacturing hub for cars, scooters and buses.

To cater to the growing demand for electric mobility and align with the govt's FAME-II and Atmanirbhar Bharat initiatives, VinFast has planned a substantial Phase II ramp-up. This will increase total production capacity to two lakh electric cars, 10 lakh electric scooters and 2k e-buses per year, as per documents submitted for environmental clearance. TNN

Maha woman ploughs field in bullock's place; govt steps in with a bull

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

The family with the new bull on Wednesday

Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar: In a dust-choked field in Bombali village, about 63km from Latur in Maharashtra, landless farmer Kashinath Gaikwad watched helplessly as lightning struck one of his two bullocks, taking away his only means to plough eight acres before the monsoon. With debt mounting and nowhere to turn, his wife Hausabai stepped into the harness, replacing the animal, as the family could no longer afford to wait.

The images, capturing the family's suffering, soon burned through social media platforms, with politicians from opposition parties amplifying them and asking how a farmer's family could be pushed to such dire straits. "...If the family of a food provider, who toils hard to feed the nation, is forced to take the place of an animal, it is not just tragic but deeply painful," NCP (SP) MLA Rohit Pawar said in a social media post on June 9. Shiv Sena (UBT) MLC Ambadas Danve echoed the sentiment.

CM Devendra Fadnavis took note of the family's plight. Latur district collector Bharat Bastewad, working with principal secretary Shrikar Pardeshi, sprang into action following the CM's intervention. On Wednesday, officials from multiple state departments handed over a new bullock to the family.

TIMES interact

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tender & notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to enter into Joint Development with respect to the properties mentioned in the Schedule hereunder with its owners, (1) Ms. **Rhea Priyanka Allen;** (2) Mr. **Ryan Raghu Allen,** both children of Sri.Venkatappa Reddy Allen ("Owners"). The Owners represent and warrant that they are the absolute owners of the Schedule Property and that, they have not conveyed nor have entered into any Agreement of Sale /Development Agreement / Memorandum of Understanding nor have entered into any sort of arrangement with any person/s for sale / transfer / development of the Schedule Properties. The Owners further represent that they have not encumbered, mortgaged, created any charge or lien on the Schedule Properties in any manner and apart from them there are no other person/s, firm/s or company/s having any sort of right, title or claim over the Schedule Properties. Any person/s having objection/s or claim/s, shall with documentary evidence, lodge their objection(s) / claim(s) within **15 (Fifteen)** days from the date of this Notice with the Undersigned failing which, my client shall proceed with the above-mentioned transaction.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the agricultural lands bearing **(1) Survey No. 174** (earlier bearing Survey No. 113/p1), measuring **04 acres**; **(2) Survey No. 175** (earlier bearing Survey No. 113/p2), measuring **04 acres**; measuring in total 08 acres, both situated at Uttari Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, which are conjoint to each other and forms a composite block and the composite property is bounded on the: East by: Land bearing Survey No. 146, West by: Road, North by: Road, South by: Land bearing Survey No. 113.

Place: Bengaluru Date: 10/06/2026

Sd/-
Sushanth J Pattanshetti, Advocate,
Jayanth Pattanshetti Associates LLP
102, Ground Floor,
"Rams Infantry Manor"
No. 70 Infantry Road,
Bengaluru - 560 001
Phone: 9980530355

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, the undersigned G Nandini Resident No. 12, Giriyappa Compound, J C Layout, Devasandra Krishnarajapuram, Bengaluru-560036, Karnataka, India do hereby declare that I have changed my name from G Neelamma to G Nandini. Henceforth, I shall be Known and called as G Nandini for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 10.06.2026 Notary G Rajendra Bangalore.

NAME CHANGE I, Sridhar S., father and natural guardian of my minor daughter, hereby declare that her name has been changed from "Varshiniey S." to "Agalya Varshiney S." Henceforth, she shall be known and identified as "Agalya Varshiney S." for all purposes. Sd/- Sridhar S. (Father and Natural Guardian)

I Chintalapati Sree Varnika D/o Chintalapati Uma Mahesh R/o 524, Srimitra Lifestyle Apartments, Kalkere Main Road, Horamavu, Bangalore changed my name from Chintalapati Sri Varnika to Chintalapati Sree Varnika for all future purposes.

L, CHICKKANNA S, S/o Subbarayappa, residing at #38, Sonnappanahalli, Shivapura PO, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore-561203, have changed my name to CHIKKANNA S, vide affidavit dt: 10.06.2026, before notary S. Chandrashekhar, Doddaballapur.

I,BHOOMI SUDRA,D/O; DHIRAJ SUDRA CHHOTALAL ,R/O :9 LAXMI NIVAS,1ST FLR ,2ND Ç MAIN RD ,6TH CROSS, RAMAKRISHNA NAGAR ,NANDIN LYT, BLR-560096. Have changed my name as BHOOMI DHIRAJ SUDRA.

I, Shahid Pasha M, s/o Mohammed Umar R/o No.105, Tamil colony, Aralihalli, Bhadravathi, Shivamogga-577233. Shall Be Known as Shahid Pasha for all future purpose.

I, Balaji Purushothaman, S/o Purushothaman Varadharajan, R/o Flat No.206, Sai Nitya Meadows, Kodigehalli Hoodi Main Road, Blr- 560048. Have changed my name as Kevin Ignatius Purushothaman.

VIVEKANANDA HOSPITAL
Dr. Zakir Hussain Avenue, Bidhannagar, Durgapur - 713206

TENDER NOTICE

VIVEKANANDA HOSPITAL INVITES TENDERS FOR ITS UPCOMING 300 BEDDED HOSPITAL PROJECT AT DURGAPUR FOR THE FOLLOWING WORKS:

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3.	PLUMBING
4.	FIRE FIGHTING SYSTEMS
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6.	STP, ETP, WTP
7.	MGPS (Medical Gas Pipeline System)
8.	BMS (Building Management System)
9.	FACADE

Interested and Experienced Contractors / Vendors are Requested to Submit their Quotations / Proposals.
Email: Project@vhpl.net.in / sumonjit@vhpl.net.in

personal

LOST & FOUND

I,M Swetha D/o S Mohan, R/at #1467,3rd Cross, Pattegarh palya, Bengaluru-560079, I had lost Original BDA Khatha Certificate, Property in the name of M Swetha, Site No.71, Khatha No- BDA/RO (W) / 71/ 2012-13,Situated at Sulikere Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Finders Contact 9738127558

LOST B.Sc. Degree, MJP Univ Bareilly. Enrol: 009336. Contact:8879330830

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LOST PROPERTY DOCUMENTS The following original property documents have been lost/misplaced around 2nd-April-2026 : 1. Original Sale Deed registered as Document No. 11212 dated 02.11.2001-2002, recorded in CD No. 51 of Book-I in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore. 2. Original Gift Deed registered as Document No. 9696 dated 16.06.2003-2004, recorded in CD No. 132 of Book-I in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore. Any person finding the above documents or having any claim, objection, lien, charge, or interest in respect thereof is requested to contact the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which, necessary steps will be taken and no claim shall be entertained thereafter. Sd/- Mrs. Shanthi Balu Bengaluru Contact: 9901408707

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. All creatives marked as Advertorial, Spotlight and Promotional Features are to be treated as Advertisements. The Times of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of the products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and the owners of The Times of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

CHENNAI PORT AUTHORITY
CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
No 1, RAJAJI SALAI, CHENNAI -600001

NOTICE INVITING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Chennai Port Authority invites Request for Proposal (RFP) through e-Procurement mode https://eprocure.gov.in/ from the interested and eligible Bidders for "Development & Mechanization of Coastal Berths (CB-I & CB-II) on Equip, Operate and Transfer basis at Chennai Port through Public Private Partnership mode."

Date for downloading RFP Documents – 15.06.2026
Last Date for Online Bid Submission – 29.07.2026
For further details, please visit www.chennaiport.gov.in or www.eprocure.gov.in

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SOUTH SPECIAL

The art of writing is the art of discovering what you believe - Gustave Flaubert

Pay writers well first, good films will follow: Vasishta Simha

VASISHTA SIMHA

'Audiences don't want a black Bond'

Nora calls FIFA World Cup song a 'full-circle moment'

FROM CONCERTS TO RED CARPET

At Tribeca Film Fest, Trudeau & Perry make their red carpet debut

CM Neiphiu condemns death of 6 Naga men

▶ Continued from page 1

UNC's demands include abrogation of the Suspension of Operations (SoO) agreement with Kuki militant groups, arrest and prosecution of those allegedly involved in the abductions and killings, and a notification declaring the Kuki outfit KNF-P as a terrorist organisation. The bodies of Kenpibou Chawang, Manu Thiumai, Phenrongwibo Thiumai, Dilip Thiumai, Kaliwangbou Abonmai and Ch. Phenrilung — all from Konsakhul Naga village in Kangpokpi – were found near Kharam Vaiphei village in the same district after a 24-hour search involving a 450-strong joint team of police, CRPF and Assam Rifles, assisted by forensic experts and a dog squad. The first two were pastors. As tempers flared, a security convoy moved the bodies to the Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences in Imphal for post-mortem.

The origin of the hostage crisis was the killing of three pastors from the Thadou Baptist Association on May 13 in an ambush Kuki groups blamed armed Naga outfits for.

In retaliation, one Chiru Naga civilian was shot dead in Noney district and several Naga villagers were abducted in Kangpokpi. Both sides freed 14 hostages each on May 15, but Naga groups continued to hold 14 Kuki villagers, insisting on the release of the six men they said their Kuki rivals were still holding captive. Nagaland CM Neiphiu Rio, who played a role in the release of the 14 Kuki captives Tuesday, wrote on X, "I am deeply saddened by the tragic loss of the six Naga men whose mortal remains were recovered today. I strongly condemn this heinous act and extend my heartfelt condolences to their families."

Delhi HC: Nothing incriminating found against Newsclick till date

▶ Continued from page 1

The bench noted, "Pertinently, extensive investigations have been carried out by ED for about a year and a half and petitioners as well as its employees have been summoned and examined many a times, but nothing incriminating till date has been found or placed on record. Aside from bald assertions of there being a criminal conspiracy, there is not a whisper of any incriminating allegation, which would even remotely suggest the commission of the offence punishable under Section 4 PMLA."

The allegations against PPK Newsclick Studio Pvt Ltd were that it had received foreign direct investment by allegedly overvaluing its shares to bypass FDI restrictions.

The FIR, registered in August 2020 on a complaint forwarded by the I&B ministry, alleged that NewsClick received Rs 9.59 crore in FDI from US-based Worldwide Media Holdings LLC through an overvalued share transaction and that part of the funds was siphoned off through salaries, consultancy fees and other expenses.

The FIR subsequently formed the basis of an ED money laundering probe. The court, however, found that Worldwide Media Holdings LLC had agreed to invest a total of $4.5 million in three tranches of $1.5 million each in exchange for 23.07% shares in PPK Newsclick Studio Pvt. Ltd.

Addressing the allegation of FDI violations, the court noted that NewsClick had sought clarification from the I&B ministry in 2017 regarding the FDI policy applicable to online news publications.

The court also rejected allegations of Fema violations, observing that the valuation was arrived at through negotiations between the parties using the discounted cash flow method, an internationally-accepted valuation standard recognised by the finance ministry.

On allegations of siphoning off funds, the court observed that salaries, consultancy payments and similar expenditures were routine for a company engaged in digital media operations.

PUDUCHERRY TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY,
PUDUCHERRY - 605 014.
POSTGRADUATE ADMISSION COMMITTEE (PGAC-2026)
PG Admission Notification
No. PGAC/01/2026 Date : 10-06-2026
Post Graduate Admission Committee invites online applications with effect from 10-06-2026 from eligible applicants for admission to the Postgraduate degree programmes **M.Tech., MCA, MBA** and **M.Sc.** offered in Puducherry Technological University and Government quota seats in Private Institutions in the Union Territory of Puducherry.
For more details visit **PGAC** websites : **www.ptuniv.edu.in** & **www.pgacpdy.in**
No. 60/DIP/AD(PRESS)/ADVT/2026-27 **Chairman, PGAC-2026**

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Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
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in
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Last date of submission of application by applicants is by **15:00 Hours** on
30th June, 2026
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal Officers to PESB is by **17:00 hours** on
09th July, 2026
For details login to website **http://pesb.gov.in**

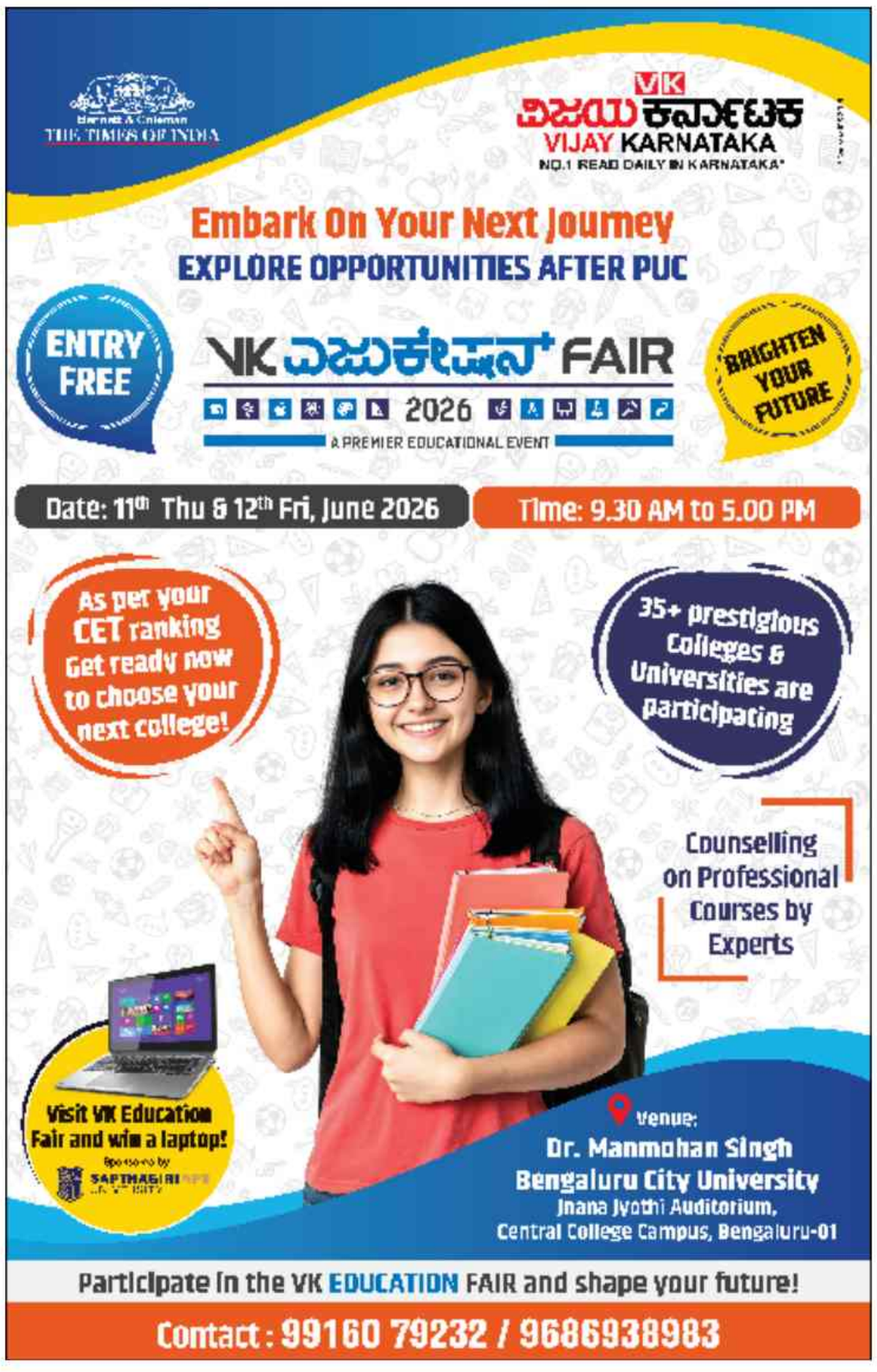
ADMISSION NOTICE
Sports Authority of India, Lakshmibai National College of Physical Education (SAI-LNCPE), in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, is one of the leading institutions in the field of Physical Education & Sports Sciences. We are inviting applications for the BPEd 4yr Innovative and MPES programmes for the academic year 2026-27. Applications can be submitted online from 20th May 2026 to 22nd June 2026, until 6 p.m.
Test Centres: SAI-LNCPE, Thiruvananthapuram, LNIPE, Gwalior and LNIPE-NERC, Guwahati. For more details, please visit: **www.lncpe.ac.in**,
Contact numbers: 0471-2418712, 2412189.
CBC 47115/11/0001/2627 **(Principal) SAI-LNCPE**

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
SWAMI VIVEKANAND NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF REHABILITATION TRAINING AND RESEARCH
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (DIVYANGJAN)
(MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT, GOVT. OF INDIA)
OLATPUR, P.O.-BAIROI, DIST-CUTTACK-754010, ODISHA
Ref. No.: AD 6B 10/ 04 /2026 **Dated: 09th June, 2026**
RECRUITMENT NOTICE
Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for the following posts:

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Pay Matrix Level	Category	No. of post
1	Speech Therapist	Level- 06 (Group - B)	UR	01
2	Senior Stenographer	Level- 06 (Group - B)	UR	01
3	Radiographer Grade - I	Level- 06 (Group - B)	UR	01
4	Laboratory Technician Grade-I	Level- 05 (Group - C)	UR	01

The aspiring applicants fulfilling the eligibility criteria in all respect can submit their application through on-line mode. The online registration of application will be made available on SVNIRTAR, Cuttack official Website i.e. **https://svnirtar.nic.in** or can directly visit the website i.e. **https://recruitment.svnirtar.in**. The link of submission of online application in respect of above said posts along with other relevant information will be activated on **20th June, 2026 after 5:00 PM.** For all other details, terms and conditions, please visit to website **https://svnirtar.nic.in.**
Sd/- Director

Reliance Industries Limited
Growth is Life
Regd. Office: 3rd Floor, Maker Chambers IV, 222, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400 021
Phone: +91-22-3555 5000 • Fax: +91-22-2204 2268 • E-mail: investor.relations@ril.com
CIN: L17110MH1973PLC019786
NOTICE
(for the attention of Equity Shareholders of the Company)
Sub.: Transfer of Equity Shares of the Company to Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority
This notice is published pursuant to the provisions of the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016, as amended ("the Rules").
The Rules, amongst other matters, contain provisions for transfer of all shares, in respect of which dividend has not been paid or claimed for seven consecutive years or more, in the name of the Investor Education and Protection Fund("IEPF") Authority.
Adhering to the various requirements set out in the Rules, the Company has, so far, transferred lo IEPF Authority, on respective due dates, all shares in respect of which dividend(s) for the financial year 2017-18 or before had remained unpaid or unclaimed for a period of seven consecutive years or more. The Company has, vide its letter dated June 9, 2026, communicated individually, the concerned shareholders whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF Authority during the financial year 2026-27 for taking appropriate action.
The Company has uploaded full details of such shareholders and shares due for transfer to IEPF Authority on its website at **www.ril.com**. Shareholders are requested to refer to the web-link **https://www.ril.com/investors/shares/dividend-shares** to verify the details of unencashed dividends and the shares liable to be transferred to IEPF Authority.
Shareholders may note that both the unclaimed dividend and the shares transferred to IEPF Authority including all benefits accruing on such shares, if any, can be claimed back by them from IEPF Authority after following the procedure prescribed under the Rules.
The concerned shareholders, holding shares in physical form and whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF Authority, may note that the Company would be issuing new share certificate(s) in lieu of the original share certificate(s) held by them for the purpose of dematerialisalion and transfer of shares to IEPF Authority as per the Rules and upon such issue, the original certificate(s)which stands registered in their name will stand automatically cancelled and be deemed non-negotiable. The shareholders may further note that the details uploaded by the Company on its website shall be deemed to be adequate notice in respect of issue of new share certificate(s) by the Company for the purpose of transfer of shares to IEPF Authority pursuant to the Rules.
In case the Company does not receive any communication (claiming the unclaimed/ unencashed dividend) from the concerned shareholders on or before September 11, 2026, the Company shall with a view to complying requirements set out in the Rules, dematerlalise and transfer the shares to IEPF Authority by way of corporate action as per procedure stipulated In the Rules.
In case the shareholders have any queries on the subject matter and the Rules, they may contact **KFin Technologies Limited (Unit: Reliance Industries Limited)**, Company's Registrar and Transfer Agent at Selenium Tower B, Plot 31-32, Gachibowli, Financial District, Nanakramguda, Hyderabad - 500 032; Toll Free No.: 1800-309-4001 (From 9:00 a.m.(1ST) to 6:00 p.m. (1ST) on all working days); Email: rilinvestor@kfintech.com; Website: **www.kfintech.com.**
For **Reliance Industries Limited**
Sd/-
Savithri Parekh
Company Secretary and Compliance Officer
Place : Mumbai
Date : June 11, 2026
www.ril.com



From Trump to Meloni, congratulations pour in from heads of state on Modi feat

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Leaders from across the world, including US President Donald Trump, congratulated PM Narendra Modi on Wednesday after he became India's longest continuously serving elected PM, with several describing the milestone as a reflection of the trust reposed in him by voters over three consecutive parliamentary elections.

Among the first to post a message was Italian PM Giorgia Meloni, who wrote, "Congratulations to @narendramodi who today becomes the longest-serving elected PM in the history of India." She added, "It has been a pleasure to meet again in Rome in recent weeks and to launch together a special strategic partnership that looks to the future to create new opportunities for our nations and our peoples."

In his message, Trump said, "Congratulations to my friend, PM Narendra Modi, on becoming India's longest-serving PM — And a great one he is! He is a strong, healthy, and wise man, and will have many years of greatness and success ahead of him!"

(From left to right) Italian PM Giorgia Meloni, Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, Bhutan PM Tshering Tobgay, Malaysia's PM Anwar Ibrahim

In response, Modi thanked Trump and said he looked forward to working with him. "Thank you, President, for your warm wishes. I look forward to working with you to further advance the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership, for the benefit of both our nations and the world."

Ethiopian PM Abiy Ahmed Ali described Modi as his "elder brother and dear friend" and congratulated him on "the historic milestone of leading India with vision and determination across three consecutive democratic mandates as India's longest serving PM".

Bhutan PM Tshering Tobgay published a detailed tribute titled "Prime Minister Narendra Modi: My Friend, My Brother, My Mentor", describing Modi as "a trusted friend", "an elder brother" and "a mentor whose dedication to public service continues to inspire me".

Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake said he looked forward to "further strengthening the enduring ties" between the two nations, while President Muizzu said the Maldives was eager to deepen cooperation with India, "guided by mutual respect, sovereign equality, and shared interests".

Mongolian President Ukhnaagiin Khürelsükh called Modi's achievement "a testament to your leadership and to the enduring trust and confidence that the people of India have placed in you".

Malaysia's PM Anwar Ibrahim said the milestone reflected Modi's "years of dedicated public service and leadership".

Shah: Modi's tenure marked by restoration of India's pride

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi's 12 years in office have been marked by the restoration of India's pride, a cultural renaissance and removal of slave mentality, home minister Amit Shah said on Wednesday as Modi went past Jawaharlal Nehru's tenure as elected head of govt.

"Modi's leadership is a journey from resolve to resolution and from service to good governance," he said. Several Union ministers such as Piyush Goyal, Dharmendra Pradhan and Ashwini Vaishnaw offered prayers at temples to mark the twin milestones. In his remarks at the NDA meeting, Shah sought to contrast Modi's run as head of govt with Nehru's as he emphasised that Congress faced little political headwinds in the early years after independence as it carried the legacy of freedom. "But in this time of politics of performance when people are repeatedly blessing Modi, his journey is also a journey of the democratic acceptance of his leadership," he said, adding that his stint will be written in golden letters for political stability, policies and their implementation, and a robust defence doctrine that brooked no compromise with national pride.

He noted that Modi will complete 25 years as head of a govt, including his stint as Gujarat CM, on Oct 7. It will be an era of peerless leadership, he said.

BJP president Nitin Nabin said Modi's tenure symbolises his unparalleled dedication to the nation and has led to an unprecedented boost in development, security, economic empowerment and the country's global stature.

Prez: Modi catalysed big changes

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: President Droupadi Murmu on Wednesday congratulated Prime Minister Narendra Modi on achieving the milestone of becoming India's longest-serving elected PM and said that India has witnessed significant transformations across all facets of national life during his tenure.

"This milestone is therefore not merely a matter of the longest duration in this public office; it is an affirmation of the confidence that the people of India have reposed in your leadership across successive elections," the president said in a letter to Modi.

IANS

Union Industries minister HD Kumaraswamy greets PM Modi in New Delhi Wednesday

"Having witnessed the challenges faced by Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups over generations, I was deeply touched by your compassion for the marginalised sections of our society and your commitment to the ideal of Antyodaya--upliftment of the person at the very end of the line," Murmu added.

Highlighting that India has witnessed remarkable progress under PM's visionary leadership across every sphere, Vice President C P Radhakrishnan said in a social media post that while Abraham Lincoln had liberated millions from the bondage of slavery, Modi has liberated over 25 crore people from the grip of absolute poverty.

Speaker Om Birla wrote to Modi, describing his tenure as a period of transformational governance, democratic consolidation, economic growth, social reform and enhanced global stature for India.

DELHI | **GMR**

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CIN NO. U63033DL2006PLC146936

TENDER EXTENSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Tender Announcement dated 27th May 2026 by Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL), inviting Interested Parties to participate in the competitive bidding process for grant of License to Finance, Design, Develop, Set-up, Operate, Manage and Maintain 3 (three) Lounges – 2 (two) Lounges at Terminal 1 (T1) and 1 (one) Lounge at Terminal 3 (T3), at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi is amended as below:

Last date for Request of RFP is extended till 13th June 2026

For more details, please visit our website: www.newdelhiairport.in

DIAL/230/PREM ASSOCIATES

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

Corrigendum

No. PCMM/CLW/HWH/E-Procurement/CORRIGENDUM/26/02, Dated: 05.06.2025. The following Corrigendum of E-Tender/s is for supply of materials for manufacture of Electric Locomotive. The Prospective/ likely suppliers are requested to look up the website **www.ireps.gov.in** for detailed instructions. These are E-Tenders only electronic offer bids shall be accepted. **Sl.No.: [01]. Tender Notice No.: Sl. No. 035** of PCMM/CLW/HWH/E-Procurement/26/16 Dated: 14/05/2026. **Tender No.: 14253010. Tender Opening Date :** Tender Opening Date is to be read as **"22/06/2026"** instead of existing entry.

PR1/369 PCMM/CLW/Howrah

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Chief Executive

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

For and on behalf of President of India, the Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer(Co)/Kharagpur-721301 invites e-tender for the following works and will be opened at 12:00 hrs. **Sl. No., Tender Notice No. & Description of works** are as follows: **1. ST-OT-DC-TRACK-KYOSAN-26, Dt. 08.06.2026.** Provision of DC Track circuit for dual detection (Kyosan make EI) in various station yards of Kharagpur division. **Tender Value :** Rs. 17,47,63,944.64. **EMD:** Rs. 34,95,300/-. **2. ST-OT-DC-TRACK-MEDHA-26, Dt. 08.06.2026.** Provision of DC Track circuit for dual detection (Medha make EI) in various station yards of Kharagpur division. **Tender Value :** Rs. 15,95,80,726.60. **EMD:** Rs. 31,91,600/- **Cost of Tender Document :** Nil for each. **Date of Opening :** 30.06.2026 for each. **Completion Period :** 15 Months for each. **Date of Submission:** up to 12.00 hrs. of 30.06.2026 Interested Tenders may visit website **www.ireps.gov.in** for full details description specification of the tender and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these works will be accepted. **(PR-299)**

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

OPEN E-TENDER

The following **e-Tenders** can be accessed under the link **www.ireps.gov.in.** Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link **www.ireps.gov.in → login → E-Tender Stores/Supply.** Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dy. CMM/HQ/CLW/Chittaranjan, 9163340711 or AMM/HQ, 9163340713 (For Notice No. A) & Dy. CMM/M-II/CLW/Chittaranjan, 9163340708 or AMM/M, 9163340706 (For Notice No.B),.Dy.CMM/P/CLW/Chittaranjan, 9163340721 or AMM/P, 9163342746 (For Notice No. C). **Office Address:** Office of The PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan. **[A] No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 05/06/2026. Sl. No.:[1]. Tender No.: 73264027. Brief Description of Item:** Complete Shell Assembly For WAG-9HC Twin Locomotives as per Drg. No. CLW/MS/3/152 Alt.14 or Latest., Drg. No. as per Annexure 'D' & 'E' of Spec no. CLW/MS/3/152 Alt.14 or Latest. **[Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery]. **Quantity: 284.00 Numbers. Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees):** ₹5000000.00. **Tender Closing Date & Time (IST): 06/07/2026 at 11:00 AM. [B] No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 05/06/2026. Sl. No.:[1]. Tender No.: 75264033. Brief Description of Item:** Side Wall Assembly For WAG-9HC Loco, as per Specn. CLW/MS/3/154 Alt. 3 or latest (As per Sets Details attached) **[Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery]. **Quantity: 425.00 Set. Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees):** ₹2000000.00. **Tender Closing Date & Time (IST):10/07/2026 at 11:00 AM. [C] No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 05/06/2026. Sl. No.:[1]. Tender No.: 74263704. Brief Description of Item:** Set of Insulating Base for WAG-9HC to Drg. No:1209-01.415-015 Alt-1 & 1209-01.315-016. [Each Set consisting of 02 (Two) items as per Set Details attached] **[Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery]. **Quantity: 517.00 Set. Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees):** ₹57870.00. **Tender Closing Date & Time (IST): 03/07/2026 at 11:00AM**

PR8/368 PCMM/CLW/CRJ.

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BANNERGHATTA BIOLOGICAL PARK
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
BANNERGHATTA BIOLOGICAL PARK, BENGALURU - 83.
Phone: 080-29776466 / 29776467 E-mail: ed@bannerughattabiopark.org

No:A3/BBP/e-Tender/Outsource/CR-1/2026-27 Date: 08-06-2026

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Deputy Director, Bannerghatta Biological Park, Bengaluru herein after referred as Tender Inviting Authority, has invited e-Tender from the eligible contractors for **"Outsourcing the Staff"** for a period of one year from the date of agreement.

Detailed tender documents may be downloaded from the Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Tenders may be submitted along with EMD and tender fees electronically in e-Proc **on or before 23-06-2026 upto 4.00 PM.** Technical bid will be Opened on **25-06-2026 after 4.30 PM** and Financial bid will be Opened on **27-06-2026 after 11.30 AM.**

Sd/-
Deputy Director

DIPR/CP/1067/Adverto/2026-27

Ministry of Culture Government of India **VISVESVARAYA INDUSTRIAL & TECHNOLOGICAL MUSEUM**

(A unit of National Council of Science Museums)
Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India, P.B No.: 5216, Kasturba Road, Bengaluru – 560 001, Telephone- 080–2286 6200,
E-mail: vitmuseum@gmail.com Website: https://www.vismuseum.gov.in/

ADVERTISEMENT No. 05/2026

E-tenders are invited from reputed and well experienced agencies/firms for **External Development at SRSC, Shivamogga, Karnataka** at an estimated cost of **Rs. 1.24 Crore.** Agencies having proven experience in Civil Works, RCC Road and Pathways, Water Management System & Plumbing and Steel Fabrication may visit the CPP Portal website: **www.eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/cppp** to download the tender documents using tender ID: 2026_NCSM_912024_1 and upload the tender online. Director, VITM Bengaluru reserves the right to reject any/all the tenders without assigning any reason.

Please visit website **https:vismuseum.gov.in/** for details of the notice.

संत रविदास म.प्र. हस्तशिल्प एवं हाथकरघा विकास निगम लिमिटेड
(मध्यप्रदेश शासन का उपक्रम)
मुख्यालय : हस्तशिल्प भवन, हमीदिया रोड, भोपाल-462001
(म.प्र.) फोन : 0755-2676920, 2676926 (फैक्स)
वेबसाइट : www.mphandicrafts.com, Email : hsvn@mp.gov.in

मृगनयनी एम्पोरियम की फ्रेंचाइजी एवं पी.पी.पी. मॉडल पर संचालन हेतु "रुचि की अभिव्यक्ति आमंत्रित"

संत रविदास म.प्र. हस्तशिल्प एवं हाथकरघा विकास निगम लि. (मृगनयनी) द्वारा ऐसे स्थानों पर जहां वर्तमान में मृगनयनी एम्पोरियम नहीं है, **फ्रेंचाइजी मॉडल** पर नए मृगनयनी एम्पोरियम की फ्रेंचाइजी स्थापित करने तथा वर्तमान में उपलब्ध एम्पोरियमों को **पी.पी.पी. मॉडल** (Public Private Partnership) पर संचालन एवं विकास हेतु उद्यमियों, संस्थाओं, कम्पनियों से रुचि की अभिव्यक्ति (EOI) आमंत्रित की जाती है।

अंतिम तिथि 1 जुलाई 2026 तक प्रस्ताव रजिस्टर्ड डाक पता- संत रविदास म.प्र. हस्तशिल्प एवं हाथकरघा विकास निगम लि., 03, हमीदिया रोड, भोपाल-462001 एवं मेल **(marketingmphsvn82@gmail.com)** पर आमंत्रित है।

सम्पर्क :- 9827225646, 7000440623, 9479895432

म.प्र. माध्यम/126295/2026 **प्रबंध संचालक**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Belagavi

SN:PRED/BGM/PB-2/TENDER-13/2026-27/1305 DATED: 10-06-2026

Tender Invited (E- Procurement)

Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Belagavi hereby invited tender from Registered Contractors for the Item rates throughkpppPortal.There are total 2 (Construction of CC Road From State Main Hiway to Maradinagalapur village in Kittur Constituency (Ch.0.00 KM to 250 K.M) RDPR/2026-27/RD/WORK_ INDENT 27037, Improvement of the road providing connectivity from Hirekoppa village of Savadatti Taluk to Bailhongal Town, Belagavi District RDPR/2026-27/RD/ WORK_ INDENT27039) work have been called, Standard of tender documents KW-3 for price of Hightest and Lowest Estimated Cost Rs. 200.00 Lakhs and Rs. 160.00 Lakh respectively and also Hightest and Lowest EMD has As Per Eprocurement for each work. The last date for Submission of any Quarries is 25-06-2026 17:28 PM, the last date for submission of tender bid is on 25-06-2026 17:28 PM. Opening of technical bid is on 29-06-2026 11-00 AM and Expected Financial bid will be opened on 29-06-2026 11:30 AM. For any other information/ clarifications please contact the below signed office, and also search internet forkppp-Portal website http://kppp-proc.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/-Executive Engineer, P. R. E. Division, Belagavi.

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-406/KSMCA/2026-27

34001/328/2627 Mail ID: - sepwdbalangir@gmail.com

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, BALANGIR (R&B) CIRCLE: BALANGIR
e - Procurement Notice
BID IDENTIFICATION No: CCE(R&B) BGR/02/ 2026-27
Letter No- 1665 // Dtd. 05.06.2026

The **Chief Construction Engineer, Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir** on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in **ONLINE MODE** for the construction of works detailed in the table below from **"Special", "A" & "B" Class** Contractor registered with the State Governments and contractors of equivalent Grade/ Class registered with Central Government / MES / Railways for execution of Civil works. The proof of registration from the appropriate authority shall be enclosed along with the bid.

1.	Nature of Work	:	Building, Bridge, Road Work
2.	No. of tender	:	Total works - 16 No.
3.	Tender Cost	:	Rs.10,000/-
4.	Class of Contractor	:	**"Special", "A" & "B" Class**
5.	Date & Time of sale & Receipt of Bids	:	From Dt. 19.06.2026, 06.55 P.M. to Dt. 04.07.2026 up to 05.00 P.M.
6.	Date of opening Bid	:	Dt.06.07.2026 at 11.00 A.M.
7.	The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: **http://tendersorissa.gov.in**. All future corrigendum will be available on ONLINE MODE only.		

Sd/-
Chief Engineer, Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir
OIPR-34001/34131/1/26-27/0007

32001/375/2627

GOVERNMENT OF ORISSA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, BARIPADA, MINOR IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BARIPADA
e-Mail ID:acemicircleb@gmail.com
"e" Procurement Notice
No 886 Dated 10.06.2026
BID IDENTIFICATION NO- Addl. C.E BMIC,BARIPADA No.- 01/BMIC, BPD/2026-27

The Additional Chief Engineer, Baripada Minor Irrigation Circle, Baripada on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites **percentage rate bids in Double cover only in ONLINE mode** for the works detailed in the table from **"B" Class, "A" class & "Special class"** Contractors registered with the State Government and contractors of equivalent Grade/ Class registered with Central Government/M.E.S./Railways for execution of civil works on production of definite proof from the appropriate authority. The bidders may submit bids for any or all of the works.

1	Name of the works	:	Improvement & Renovation to MIP under DPIW (Dam Protection & Improvement Work) Scheme for the year 2026-27.
2	Total No. of works	:	2 (Two) nos
3	Estimated Cost	:	Rs 190.063 lakh & Rs.696.015 lakh Approximately (Detail list of work Annexed)
4	Class of Contractor	:	Class "B", "A" & "Special class"
5	Period of completion	:	As Mentioned against Work.
6	Date & time of Availability of Bid Document in the portal for online bidding.	:	17.06.2026 at 10.00 AM to 01.07.2026 up to 5.00 P.M.
7	Last date/Time for receipt of Bid only in ONLINE	:	01.07.2026 up to 5.00 P.M.
8	Date/Time of Opening of Technical Bid.	:	02.07.2026 at 11.00 A.M. at Office of the Addl. C.E Baripada M.I Circle, Baripada through Web site
9	Date/Time of Opening of Financial Bid	:	To be intimated online after offline evaluation of Technical Bids.
10	Date of Transparent Lottery (If cases arises)	:	To be intimated through mail after offline evaluation of Financial Bids.
11	Name & Address of the Officer Inviting the Bid.	:	Additional Chief Engineer, Baripada M.I. Circle, Baripada At/Po-Baripada, Dist: Mayurbhanj, PIN-757001 E-Mail:- **acemicircleb@gmail.com**
12	Mode of Payment of Bid Cost	:	Online

13. Further details can be seen from the "e" Procurement Portal **https://tendersodisha.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Additional Chief Engineer, Baripada M.I Circle, Baripada
OIPR-32001/32490/1/26-27/0001

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHANDIGARH

TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Bid Submission Schedule (Online)	Opening Technical Bid (Online)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - Roads Division No. 3			
1.	Providing and Fixing 60 mm Paver Blocks in Internal Blocks at Rehabilitation Colony, Dhanas, Chandigarh. Capital Head- Basic Amenities/Services in Rehabilitation Colonies (EWS) Est. Cost : Rs. 220.23 Lacs EMD: Rs. 4,41,856/- Time Limit : 06 Months	10.06.2026 To 17.06.2026 upto 12.00 noon	17.06.2026 at 15.00 PM

Note:- All other terms and conditions and complete DNIT are uploaded on website https://etenders.chd.nic.in

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Roads Division No.3, Room No.311, M.C. Chandigarh. Ph 0172-5021482 xenroad3.mcc@chd.nic.in

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30001/36/2627

ODISHA MINING CORPORATION LIMITED
OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001, Odisha
CIN: U13100OR1956SGC000313, www.omcltd.in

OMC ODISHA MINING CORPORATION LTD. — Mining Happiness

NOTICE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Sl No	EoI No.	Job Description	Availability of EoI Document	Submission of EoI
1	OMC/E-PROC/C&P/015/2026-27, Dated: 09/06/2026	Expression of Interest for identification of various AI use cases for mining operations from pit to dispatch.	10/06/2026	15/07/2026

All other details can be seen from the Expression of Interest available on the website of OMC (**www.omcltd.in).**

Sd/-
Head (C&P)

OIPR-30001/30005/1/26-27/0033

34001/327/2627

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER ELECTRICAL CIRCLE (R&B) NIRMAN SOUDHA BHUBANESWAR
E-mail : seec.bbsr2010@gmail.com
Bid Identification No.S.E.E.C (R&B) 18/2026-27
No 2648/Date 09.06.2026

The Superintending Engineer, Electrical Circle (R&B) Odisha, Bhubaneswar on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bids for E.I. works which are to be received through online bidding, double cover system as detailed in : https://tendersorissa.gov.in. The details of bid documents will be available in the above website from dt.16.06.2026 at 05.00 P.M. to dt. 01.07.2026 up to 05.00 P.M. The bidders must possess compatible Digital Signature Certificate of Class II or III. Bids received online shall be opened dt. 02.07.2026 at 11.30 A.M. in the Office of the Superintending Engineer, Electrical Circle (R&B) Odisha, Bhubaneswar. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal www.tendersorissa.gov.in.

Addendum / Corrigendum, if required, will be available only in the Website.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
Electrical Circle (R&B) Odisha, BBSR
OIPR-34001/34006/1/26-27/0017

THE KANCHEEPURAM-THIRUVALLUR DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS' UNION LIMITED,
X37, KAKKALUR DAIRY, KAKKALUR, THIRUVALLUR DISTRICT – 602 003.
TWO PARTS TENDER Dated: 09.06.2026

Online tender invitation for the period of 2 years. 2026-28 for work contract on operation and maintenance of **ETP & Pre Pack Machines :-**

1. **Ref. 2164/Engg/2026**
The work contract on Operation and Maintenance of 100 KLPD Capacity Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) at Kakkalur Dairy.
2. **Ref :2165/Engg/2026**
The work contract on operation and maintenance of pre-pack machines at Kakkalur Dairy.

Ref : 2105/P&I/2026
Online Tender Invitation for the Period 2026-2028 (Two years) for Engaging Vehicles on Rental Basis for Milk Collection Routes, Input Taxi Services and Milk Distribution Routes.

1. **A) Milk Collection routes for Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram and Thiruvallur districts from MPCS to nearby BMC, CC and Dairy - 34 No's.**
Chengalpattu District – Perungaranai, Ancor, Thiruvathur, Elappakkam, Seevadi, Pandithamedu, Thirukazhukundram, Thathalur, Kalpattu, Nugumbal, Uthiramerur, Sirungozhi, Madhur, Pavunjur, Nerumbur, Kunnapattu, Salavedu, Echur, Veerakupparn, Ramapuram, Kayar.
Thiruvallur District – Nadukuppam, Kilambakkam, Thirumathulambakkam, Sembedu, Ellampalli, Thandalam, Thumbikulam
Kancheepuram District - Thirumalpur, Thamal, Manamathi, Natteri, Kalavai, Irungur.

B) Input Taxi – 2 No's (Thiruvallur & Chengalpattu Districts).

2. **C) Insulated Milk Collection Routes** - Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram and Thiruvallur districts - 5 No's – (Minjur, Tiruttani, Thiruvalangadu, Uthiramerur, Pallipattu, Kanchipuram, Gummidipoondi, Achampakkam, Tiruporur)

The tender details visit **www.tntenders.gov.in** Tender documents submitted without the required enclosures will be summarily rejected. Last date for online submission **14.07.2026** timing **05.00 PM.**

DIPR/2026/TENDER/2026 **GENERAL MANAGER**

कार्यालयः नगर निगम, गोरखपुर

ई-निविदा सूचना

नगर निगम, गोरखपुर द्वारा नगर निगम के समस्त पंजीकृत/पात्र ठेकेदारों/अनुभवी फर्मों से ई-निविदा के माध्यम से मुख्यमंत्री ग्रीन रोड इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर डेवलपमेन्ट स्कीम (अर्बन) फेज-3 (सप्लीमेन्ट्री) के अन्तर्गत 01 कार्य की निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। शासनादेश सं0 3890/नौ-5-149सा/2019, नगर विकास अनुभाग-05 उ0प्र0 शासन लखनऊ, दिनांक 20 सितम्बर 20.09.2019 के क्रम में उक्त निविदा में नगर निगम, गोरखपुर में अपंजीकृत ठेकेदारों भी प्रतिभाग कर सकते है। सर्वप्रथम निविदादाता होने पर सम्बन्धित ठेकेदार को नगर निगम, गोरखपुर में पंजीकरण की अर्हता पूर्ण कराकर नगर निगम, गोरखपुर में पंजीकरण कराना होगा। पंजीकरण की अर्हता सम्बन्धी विवरण/आवश्यक प्रपत्र की सूचना किसी भी कार्य दिवस में नगर निगम कार्यालय के निर्माण विभाग में देखी जा सकती है। ई-निविदा प्रपत्र उ0प्र0 की ई-प्रक्योरमेन्ट की वेबसाईट **http://etender.up.nic.in** पर देखी जा सकती है। शासनादेश सं0 4848/नौ-5-2018-470सा/2018 नगर विकास अनुभाग-5 उ0प्र0 शासन, लखनऊ दिनांक 10 दिसम्बर, 2018 के क्रम में निविदा शुल्क + जी0एस0टी0 एवं धरोहर धनराशि वेबसाईट **http://etender.up.nic.in** पर ही ऑनलाईन के माध्यम से जमा की जायेगी। ई-निविदाएं निम्नानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती हैः-

क्र. सं.	नगर निगम	पैकेज सं.	अन्तर्निहित मार्ग	मार्ग की लम्बाई मी0 में	अनुमानित लागत जी0एस0टी रहित (रू0 लाख में)		कार्य की सम्पूर्ण अनुमानित लागत (रू0 लाख में)	निर्माण धरोहर धनराशि (लाख रू0 में)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि (माह में)	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य जी.एस.टी. सहित (रू0)
					निर्माण	5 सालो का अनुरक्षण				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	गोरखपुर	Gkp/ CMG/ Ph3/ Sup-03	अलहदादपुर तिराहे से रायगंज होते हुए घंटा घर तक।	1000	2143.20	22.96	2166.16	43.50	12	23600.00

ऑनलाईन निविदा का विवरण

क्र. सं.	विवरण	दिनांक एवं समय
1	वेबसाईट से निविदा डाउनलोड करने की तिथि	12.06.2026
2	प्री-बिड मिटिंग	
3	निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि	18.06.2026 @ 05:00 PM
4	निविदा खोलने की तिथि	19.06.2026 @ 11:00 AM

कार्यों का विवरण, नियम व शर्तें नगर निगम, गोरखपुर के वेबसाइट **www.gorakhpurnagarnigam.up.gov.in** गोरखपुर पर व ई-प्रक्योरमेन्ट की वेबसाईट **http://etender.up.nic.in** पर उपलब्ध है साथ ही नगर निगम कार्यालय के नोटिस बोर्ड पर चस्पा कर दी गयी है। किसी परिवर्तन, संशोधन व अतिरिक्त सूचनाओं के लिये उक्त वेबसाईट एवं नोटिस बोर्ड पर देखी जा सकती है।

पत्रांकः 143/मु0अभि0/चार-सा0नि0वि0/2026-27
दिनांकः 10.06.2026

मुख्य अभियन्ता
नगर निगम, गोरखपुर

U. N. Mehta Institute of Cardiology & Research Centre
(Affiliated to B. J. Medical College, Ahmedabad)
Civil Hospital (Medicity Campus), Asarwa, Ahmedabad-380 016, Gujarat.
Tel : (079) 22684200 Website : www.unmicrc.org • E-mail : unmicrc@gmail.com

E- TENDER NOTICE (ONLINE)

UNMICRC – Emergency Related Tertiary Cardiac Care Super Specialty Teaching Hospital Invites E-Tender for Rate Contract for Supply of:

Sn.	Name of E-Tender	Date of Uploading of E - Tender
A: Lifesaving Permanent Implant Product (Item), for Lifesaving Cardiac Operations and Cardiac Procedures (Adult, Paediatric & Neonatal)		
1	Coronary Stent	11.06.2026
2	Peripheral Stent	11.06.2026
3	Implantable Closure Devices & Delivery Systems	11.06.2026
4	Pacemaker, Pulse Generator and Leads	12.06.2026
B: Lifesaving Product (Item) used for Implantation of Lifesaving Permanent Implant Product (Item), used for Lifesaving Cardiac Operations and Cardiac Procedures (Adult, Paediatric & Neonatal)		
5	Misc. Products (Items) for Cath Lab - (A) Sheath Introducer Set, (B) Diagnostic Angiography Catheter, (C) Guiding Catheter, (D) Guide Wire.	12.06.2026
6	Misc. Products (Items) for Cath Lab - (A) Balloon Dilatation Catheter, (B) PTCA wires, (C) Micro Catheter, (D) Snares, (E) Embolization Coil / Particles.	12.06.2026
7	Misc. Products (Items) for Cath Lab - (A) IVC filter, (B) Valvuloplasty Items, (C) EP Products, (D) Pacemaker Lead Extraction Device, (E) Miscellaneous Items, (F) Specialized Cath Lab Items.	12.06.2026
E-tender for Rate Contract for Supply of		
8	ETO/ AUTOCLAVE Consumable Items, Equipment / Environment Disinfectant solutions, Hand Hygiene & Skin Care products, Dressing Material	15.06.2026
9	Diagnostic Equipment- Blood Gas Analyzer (ABG) Under Reagent Rental Scheme	18.06.2026

- Bidders need to register themselves with (n) procure tender management system of Govt. of Gujarat tender.nprocure.com to participate in e-tender. Tender submission through tender.nprocure.com is mandatory.
- Interested Bidders full filling Eligibility Criteria are requested to download the tender document from tender.nprocure.com and Price Bid Submission is through digital mode only through tender.nprocure.com.
- For submission & other e-tender details, Please refer detailed NIT on e-tender portal at tender.nprocure.com Any queries / representations received other than the Pre-bid meeting will not be taken into cognizance. No verbal communication will be considered.
- UNMICRC reserves the right to accept or reject any application without assigning any reason or incurring any liability whatsoever.

INF/ABD/344/26 **-UNMICRC**

25001/368/2627

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, KENDRAPARA-JAJPUR
AT-CHANDIKHOL, PO- SUNGUDA, JAJPUR -754296, Email- serw_kpd@yahoo.com
No. Tender Online RCK- 10/26 **Letter No.- 3740** **Date : 06.06.2026**

e-Procurement NOTICE

1. Name of the work : Tender for the Road works under (MMSY-TRIP & Impvt. Existing RD) in the Dist. of Kendrapara & Jajpur.
2. Class of Contractor : As specified in the Column-6 of the Annexure.
3. Time of Completion : As specified in the Column-7 of the Annexure.
4. Detail Projects : As per Annexure attached
5. Other Details :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding		Last date & time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara-Jajpur	Tender Online RCK - 10/26	17.06.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	04.07.2026 to 05.00 P.M.	04.07.2026 up to 02.00 P.M.	06.07.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara-Jajpur
OIPR - 25001/25129/1/26-27/0006

No proposal or discussion to merge with Cong: TMC

'Speculation On Merger Baseless'

Ambika.Pandit
@timesofindia.com

A CLIMBDOWN: In an about turn from her past hostility, former Bengal CM Mamata at an INDIA bloc meeting said Congress should take lead in the opposition's fight against BJP

New Delhi: Trinamool Congress on Wednesday denied there was any proposal or discussion about Mamata Banerjee merging her party with Congress at a meeting between Rahul Gandhi and TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee.

The meeting between Rahul and Abhishek at 10, Janpath came a day after Mamata met Congress parliamentary party chairperson Sonia Gandhi.

Speculation about a merger being deliberated — which TMC and Congress sources have termed "bogus" and "baseless" — grew as sources within the rebel TMC camp said it has managed support of at least 19 Lok Sabha MPs — two-thirds of the party's strength of 28 — and will claim to be representing its parliamentary wing in the House. The development only adds to Mamata's West Bengal poll setback.

Sharing on X a photo from the Rahul-Abhishek meeting, TMC said, "The meeting reflected a shared commitment to safeguarding democracy, upholding constitutional values and working for welfare of every Indian. INDIA (bloc) stands united."

On Monday, in an about turn from her past hostility, former Bengal chief minister Mamata at a INDIA bloc meeting said Congress should take lead in the opposition's fight against BJP. Photos were also shared by Congress where Mamata and Sonia were seen hugging each other and sharing a warm interaction.

Cong hangs RSS uniform at MP CEO office

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Bhopal: Congress escalated Wednesday its offensive over the rejection of Rajya Sabha candidate Meenakshi Natarajan's nomination, hanging an RSS uniform on the locked gate of Madhya Pradesh chief electoral officer's office and accusing constitutional institutions of functioning under ideological influence.

The party alleged democratic norms were being bent to help BJP secure all 3 Rajya Sabha seats from Madhya Pradesh unopposed.

The demonstration followed an overnight sit-in by senior Congress functionaries, MLAs and workers who gathered outside the CEO office after scrutiny rejected Natarajan's nomination Tuesday. Around 10.30pm, assembly leader of opposition Umang Singhar and other Congress politicians launched a protest outside the office, with several participants lying on the road through the night. In the morning, party workers staged another protest round and left after hanging the uniform outside.

Agitation spilled into Roshanpura Square Wednesday, where Congress staged a hunger strike to "save democracy and constitutional values". Former CM Digvijaya Singh, Rajya Sabha MP Ashok Singh, former Union minister Arun Yadav, state Congress chief Jitu Patwari, Singhar and several MLAs joined the protest.

BJP, with 164 MLAs in 230-member assembly, is comfortably placed to bag two seats. A candidate needs 58 votes to win.

Cal HC may hear 'Signgate' today; no urgent hearing on TMC petition

Times News Network

Kolkata: Calcutta high court Wednesday deferred the hearing on the MLA "Signgate" case in which Trinamool MP Abhishek Banerjee is an accused as the state govt advocates didn't appear in the court. The HC is likely to hear it on Thursday.

The court also refused urgent hearing on Trinamool's plea against CID raids in connection with the alleged signature scam — allegations that dozens of TMC MLAs' signatures were forged on official documents submitted to assembly secretariat for the selection of opposition leader. Justice Kaushik Chanda directed Abhishek to serve a notice to the state so that its counsels are present in court.

Abhishek had challenged the summons by CID and sought protection in the signature forgery case. Abhishek was summoned to Bhawani Bhawan on June 1, June 8 and June 9 but the MP did not turn up. His legal team claimed he was sick in Delhi.

IN-SPACe opens LVM-3 to pvt sector with ToT push

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SPACE REFORM

Bengaluru: In a renewed push to hand over Isro's LVM-3 launch vehicle to private industry, space regulator-cum-promoter Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) has invited expressions of interest (EoI) for the transfer of technology (ToT) of the country's heaviest operational rocket.

The move comes more than two years after Space PSU NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) had sought private partners to scale up production of the launch vehicle through a public-private partnership model. That initiative, however, did not culminate in the selection of an industry partner, as NSIL withdrew the RFP.

The latest EoI marks a shift in approach, with IN-SPACe seeking to transfer the technology required for end-to-end realisation and commercial exploitation of LVM-3 by Indian industry.

The initiative aligns with the Centre's broader space sector reforms announced in 2020, which envisaged a larger role for private players in launch services and spacecraft manufacturing.

The move follows IN-SPACe's EoI for the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) late last month. That EoI came nearly four years after NSIL awarded the first private-sector contract worth Rs 860-crore to manufacture five PSLVs, not even one of which has flown so far.

While the process for PSLV ToT is ongoing, IN-SPACe had, last year, completed the technology transfer for Isro's Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV). If the industry takes up on IN-SPACe's offer for PSLV and LVM-3, then three of the four operational rockets of Isr0 — barring GSLV-Mk2 — will reach private hands for manufacturing.

LVM-3, earlier known as GSLV-Mk3, is India's heavy-lift launcher capable of placing satellites into geostationary transfer orbit and deploying large satellite constellations into low Earth orbit. The rocket gained international commercial visibility in 2022 and 2023 when it successfully launched 72 satellites for the UK-based OneWeb constellation across two missions.

"This opportunity is aimed at capable Indian industries or consortia who have handled multi-disciplinary turn-key projects, and are keen on assimilating LVM3's proven technology and offering commercial launch services to compete in the global heavy-lift satellite launch market," IN-SPACe said.

Adhikari keeps home, hands health, education to experts

Kaushik Pradhan & Rohit Khanna | TNN

Kolkata: BJP govt in Bengal declared Wednesday its cabinet portfolios, handing key departments to domain experts and senior politicians while CM Suvendu Adhikari retained home, law and judiciary, power, land and land revenue, information and cultural affairs, and several other heavyweight ministries.

Oncologist Sharadwat Mukherjee was given health, former journalist Jagannath Chattopadhyay higher education, former headmaster Dipak Barman school education, Padma Bhushan awardee and columnist Swapan Dasgupta finance, and veteran politician Tapas Roy commerce and industry.

"We have tried to put people who understand existing problems and people's aspirations in charge of key departments," a BJP senior said. Tourism went to Sankar Ghosh and panchayat and rural development to Dilip Ghosh, underscoring BJP's effort to project a cabinet reflecting its footprint across Bengal.

Adhikari publicly signalled Mukherjee's appointment during a visit to a Ram temple in the city before the formal notification was issued. The doctor accompanied him. Roy also got non-conventional and renewable energy sources. Barman, a BJP veteran from north Bengal, takes charge of a school education department scarred by corruption allegations linked to teacher recruitment during TMC's tenure.

Educationist and agricultural scientist Kalyan Chakraborti was assigned food processing and horticulture, science and technology and biotechnology, and information technology and electronics. Noapara MLA Arjun Singh got transport and labour, while Mayureswar MLA Dudh Kumar Mondal will oversee agriculture.

Pak launched 6 spy sats in over a year

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New Delhi: Pakistan has boosted its space surveillance power manifold by launching a series of six earth observation satellites in the last one and a half years. These earth observation or spy satellites can be used by Pakistan to keep an eye on India's borders, troop deployment and military assets.

Though Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) was set up in 1961, Pakistan launched its first satellite only in 1990. Even the payloads launched in the last several decades with the help of foreign launchers were less than a dozen. However between Jan 2025 and April 2026, Pakistan surprisingly launched six EO satellites, mostly with the help of Chinese rockets.

The six earth observation satellites launched are Pakistan Air University PAUSAT-1 on Jan 14, 2025 by SpaceX-Falcon 9; Pakistan Remote Sensing Satellite-Earth Observation 1 (PRSC-EO1) launched on Jan 17, 2025 by China's Long March-2D rocket; PRSS-2 EO on July 31, 2025 by a Chinese rocket; Hyperspectral satellite HS-1 on Oct 19, 2025 by China's Long March; PRSC-EO2 lifted off on Feb 12, 2026 by China's Smart Dragon-3; and PRSC-EO3 on April 25 this year by Chinese Long March-6.

Group Captain Ajay Ahlawat (retd), now a defence analyst, told **TOI**, "These EO satellites have been designed to see things in greater detail and have improved Pakistan's visibility on Indian territory. On the contrary, India has not been able to launch a single surveillance satellite in the last one year. Our NavIC system has also crippled. Our payloads are ready, but not the rocketry system. After several launch failures of Isro, there are doubts (on successful liftoffs)."

He suggested that India should get their payloads needed for critical missions launched from friendly space agencies.

Rear Admiral Sudhir Pillai (Retd), also a defence expert, said in his blog, "When EO-3 satellite is passing over South Asia in daylight, PRSC-S1 is passing over the same geography in darkness, and vice versa."

Rebels may lay claim to party name, symbol

▶ Continued from page 1

The option to keep distance from BJP should work particularly for Muslims MPs who are part of breakaway group. The rebels can also lay claim to the party's name and symbol if they want to compound trouble for the Trinamool boss.

The group is learned to comprise Satabdi Roy, Bapi Haldar, Partha Bhowmick, Asit Kumar Mal, former international cricketer Yusuf Pathan, Khalilur Rahaman, Abu Tahir Khan, Mitali Bag, Kalipada Saren Kherwal, Sharmila Sarkar, Rachna Banerjee, Jagdish Chandra Barma Basunia, Aarup Chakraborty, Deepak Dev Adhikari, June Maliah, Prasun Banerjee, Saayoni Ghosh and Mala Roy.

In Rajya Sabha, the regional party lost another MP in Sushmita Dev, who was batting for Mamata till a few days back and is now expected to join BJP. Sukhendu Sekhar Roy had quit Rajya Sabha on Monday. Both the vacancies will be filled through byelections to be decided by the majority: something that will ensure gain of two more seats for BJP in the Upper House. In fact, the split in TMC, DMK's break-up with Congress and the hollowing out of AAP's Rajya Sabha group, with 7 of them crossing over to BJP, have changed the complexion of Parliament since the end of the budget session and significantly increased govt's advantage, expanding the room for it to push its agenda, including women's reservation bill, on terms that the opposition had rejected with the help of TMC and DMK.

The desertions mean that Mamata can be sure of the loyalty of just a handful: a shrinking group confined to those who cannot cross over to BJP or will not be accepted by it.

MEA: Attack on seafarers worrisome

▶ Continued from page 1

India had not condemned the first attack. The Indian official sought an end to the targeting of commercial shipping, underscoring India's point that lives of seafarers are important. India had in April summoned Iranian ambassador Mohammad Fathali to protest an attack on Indian tankers transiting the Strait of Hormuz. MEA said after the latest US strike on Wednesday that continuing incidents of attacks on shipping in the region are deeply worrisome and a direct result of the ongoing conflict in the region.

"We reiterate our call for immediate de-escalation of tensions, and the conclusion of ongoing negotiations for a diplomatic solution so that peace and stability can return to the region," said the ministry.

Govt again underlined that the targeting of commercial shipping and civilian infrastructure in the region must end, and unimpeded navigation and commerce through the international waterways must be restored at the earliest.

Black box data to answer some core questions: Experts

▶ Continued from page 1

Air safety experts said even if AAIB releases only an interim report and it follows ICAO norms, then the black box data should be shared and it would answer some of the core questions.

AAIB's preliminary report, released a month after the accident, had revealed that both engine fuel control switches moved from 'RUN' to 'CUTOFF' just seconds after lift-off, cutting fuel supply to both engines. The report revealed a brief exchange in which one pilot asked the other why he had cut off, only to be told that he had not done so. It was implied that the pilots were speaking about fuel control switches.

That disclosure led to two sharply different theories, one which suggested deliberate pilot action and the other which argued that a technical malfunction triggered a sequence of events that ultimately resulted in the fuel switches moving. "A crucial piece of the puzzle will come from the time stamp for the aircraft's ram air turbine (RAT) deployment," said a B787 examiner, requesting anonymity. RAT is the Boeing 787's last-resort emergency power source. AAIB's preliminary report said CCTV footage showed the RAT deployed "during the initial climb immediately after lift-off". Pilot groups have argued that the next report must establish precisely when the RAT deployment sequence began. "If investigators find that the RAT deployed before the fuel switches moved, it would point towards a total electrical failure which then caused the fuel switches to move to cutoff. It would absolve the pilot," the examiner said.

"AAIB would already have the timestamps of RAT deployment and fuel switch movements taken from the black box data. The question is, will it be made public," he added.

21st century belongs to Modi, declares NDA's resolution

▶ Continued from page 1

The 21st century belongs to Modi," declared a resolution passed by NDA members on Wednesday to commemorate Modi becoming India's longest serving elected PM.

Modi said he could never have imagined achieving such a distinction in his political journey and dedicated the milestones to every NDA constituent. He also expressed his gratitude to citizens, saying only God's special blessings can lead to such an accomplishment and he considers people to be God-like. The appreciation of the significance of the two achievements came along with the declaration that he would speedily build upon what has been achieved to realise the goal of India becoming a developed country by 2047. "People have understood the importance of political stability at the national level. It is a sign of their maturity that they gave me an opportunity to serve them for such a long time," Modi said.

He then called for faster pace of development and reforms at a time when, he emphasised, India's global stature has risen and it is continuously clocking a fast rate of growth amid sluggishness in world economy due to conflicts. "The future is full of possibilities," he said, adding govt's push to make India a manufacturing hub has begun bearing fruit and it is now raring to become a place for data centres and semi-conductors in a century which belongs to technology and date.

IFSCA
INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES CENTRES AUTHORITY
2nd and 3rd Floor, Pragya Tower, GIFT City, Gandhinagar Gujarat
File No.73/IFSCA/ Consultants/2020-21 June 04, 2026
VACANCY NOTIFICATION
International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), a statutory unified regulatory body under the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, invites applications from eligible Indian citizens for filling up various positions of Young Professional, Consultant Grade II and Senior Consultant on contract basis. The place of posting is GIFT City, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
2. The candidates willing to apply are requested to refer www.ifsca.gov.in/career for detailed vacancy notification. The last date for receipt of application along with requisite documents by post is 30.06.2026 by 6.00 PM.
CBC 15228/11/0001/2627
General Manager
Dept. of General Administration

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियंता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत्त-झालावाड़
कमरा नं0 - 158, भूतल (सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग परिसर), मिनी सचिवालय, झालावाड़
ई-मेल :- piu_jhalawar@rediffmail.com/ sejwar.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in
फोन नं0 — 07432-233336
क्रमांक :-228 दिनांक :- 03.06.2026
संशोधित निविदा सूचना संख्या 06/ 2026-27
NIB No. PWD2627A0595
इस कार्यालय पत्र क्रमांक 170 दिनांक 18.05.2026 द्वारा जारी / प्रकाशित निविदा सूचना संख्या 06 / 2026-27 में अपरिहार्य कारणों से निम्नानुसार संशोधन किया जाता है :-

क्रमांक पर अंकित कार्य	के स्थान पर	यह पढ़ा जावे	क्रमांक पर अंकित कार्य	के स्थान पर	यह पढ़ा जावे
1	अनुमानित लागत-167.03 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISLशुल्क-2000/- अवधि-4 माह	अनुमानित लागत-193.16 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISLशुल्क-2000/- अवधि-4 माह	2	अनुमानित लागत-305.44 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISLशुल्क-2000/- अवधि-7 माह	अनुमानित लागत-354.13 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISLशुल्क-2000/- अवधि-7 माह
3	अनुमानित लागत-47.39 लाख निविदा शुल्क-500/- MDRISL शुल्क-500/- अवधि-2 माह	अनुमानित लागत-54.51 लाख निविदा शुल्क-500/- MDRISL शुल्क-1500/- अवधि-3 माह	4	अनुमानित लागत-113.17 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISLशुल्क-2000/- अवधि-4 माह	अनुमानित लागत-130.87 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISL शुल्क-2000/- अवधि-4 माह
5	अनुमानित लागत-56.21 लाख निविदा शुल्क-1500/- MDRISLशुल्क-1500/- अवधि-3 माह	अनुमानित लागत-64.75 लाख निविदा शुल्क-1500/- MDRISL शुल्क-1500/- अवधि-3 माह	6	अनुमानित लागत-271.44 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISLशुल्क-2000/- अवधि-6 माह	अनुमानित लागत-314.62 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISL शुल्क-2000/- अवधि-7 माह
7	अनुमानित लागत-291.36 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISLशुल्क-2000/- अवधि-6 माह	अनुमानित लागत-337.30 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISL शुल्क-2000/- अवधि-7 माह	8	अनुमानित लागत-56.92 लाख निविदा शुल्क-1500/- MDRISLशुल्क-1500/- अवधि-3 माह	अनुमानित लागत-65.12 लाख निविदा शुल्क-1500/- MDRISL शुल्क-1500/- अवधि-3 माह
9	अनुमानित लागत-304.48 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISLशुल्क-2000/- अवधि-7 माह	अनुमानित लागत-352.67 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISL शुल्क-2000/- अवधि-7 माह	10	अनुमानित लागत-159.09 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISLशुल्क-2000/- अवधि-4 माह	अनुमानित लागत-184.38 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISLशुल्क-2000/- अवधि-4 माह
11	अनुमानित लागत-170.99 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISLशुल्क-2000/- अवधि-4 माह	अनुमानित लागत-198.28 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISLशुल्क-2000/- अवधि-5 माह	12	अनुमानित लागत-141.99 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISLशुल्क-2000/- अवधि-4 माह	अनुमानित लागत-164.63 लाख निविदा शुल्क-2000/- MDRISLशुल्क-2000/- अवधि-4 माह

नोट :- राशि रू0 300.00 लाख एवं उससे अधिक के कार्यों में पोटेंशियल असेसमेंट की प्रक्रिया अपनाई जावेगी।

क्र0 सं0	पूर्व में	अब यह पढ़ा जावे
1.	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख 26.05.2026 (मंगलवार) से 14.06.2026 (रविवार) सायं 6.00 बजे तक।	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख 26.05.2026 (मंगलवार) से 24.06.2026 (बुधवार) सायं 6.00 बजे तक।
2.	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म जमा कराने की तारीख 26.05.2026 (मंगलवार) से 14.06.2026 (रविवार) सायं 6.00 बजे तक।	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म जमा कराने की तारीख 26.05.2026 (मंगलवार) से 24.06.2026 (बुधवार) सायं 6.00 बजे तक।
3.	निविदा खोलने की तिथि 15.06.2026 (सोमवार) अपराह्न 03:00 बजे।	निविदा खोलने की तिथि 26.06.2026 (शुक्रवार) अपराह्न 03:00 बजे।
4.	जिला सिम्पोर्टिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) निर्माण कार्यों हेतु बजट मद 8443-00-108-00-00 (निर्माण विभागी) दस्तावेज मूल्य (निविदा शुल्क) बजट मद 0075-00-800-52-01, RISL शुल्क बजट मद 8658-00-102-(16)-[02] (निर्माण विभाग), ई-प्रास पर ई-प्रोक्योरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु एक ही चालान से दिनांक 14.06.2026 (रविवार) सायं 06:00 बजे तक संबंधित अधिशाषी अभियंता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, खण्ड-झालावाड़ के नाम जमा कराई जानी है।	जिला सिम्पोर्टिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) निर्माण कार्यों हेतु बजट मद 8443-00-108-00-00(निर्माण विभागी) दस्तावेज मूल्य (निविदा शुल्क) बजट मद 0075-00-800-52-01 RISL शुल्क बजट मद 8658-00-102-(16)-[02] (निर्माण विभाग) ई-प्रास पर ई-प्रोक्योरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु एक ही चालान से **दिनांक 26.06.2026 सायं 6.00 बजे तक अधिशाषी अभियंता, सा.नि.वि० खण्ड-झालावाड़ के नाम जमा कराई जानी है।** **या** **एक ही चालान से निविदा शुल्क, ई-प्रास के माध्यम से बजट मद 0075-00-800-52-01 में एवं RISL शुल्क, बजट मद 8658-00-102-(16)-[02] में जमा कराया जा सकता है तथा जिला सिम्पोर्टिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) बैंकर पैक/ मांगदेय ड्राफ्ट/ अनुसूचित बैंक की बैंक गारन्टी के भी जमा कराई जा सकती है। अधीक्षणअभियन्ता के कार्यालय में दिनांक 26.06.2026 को सायं 4.00 बजे तक जिला सिम्पोर्टिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) मूल दस्तावेज कार्यालय में इस प्रयोजनार्थ एवं निविदा बॉक्स में जमा कराया जाना आवश्यक है।**

निविदा की अन्य शर्तें यथावत रहेगी।

S.No.	UBN No.	S.No.	UBN No.	S.No.	UBN No.
1	PWD2627WSOB02700	2	PWD2627WSOB02701	3	PWD2627WSOB02702
4	PWD2627WSOB02703	5	PWD2627WSOB02704	6	PWD2627WSOB02705
7	PWD2627WSOB02706	8	PWD2627WSOB02707	9	PWD2627WSOB02708
10	PWD2627WSOB02709	11	PWD2627WSOB02710	12	PWD2627WSOB02711

(मुकेश चन्द मीना)
अधीक्षण अभियंता
सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग
वृत्त-झालावाड़
DIPR/C/9871/2026

राष्ट्रीय मानसिक स्वास्थ्य एवं तंत्रिका विज्ञान संस्थान (राष्ट्रीय प्रमुखधाया संस्थ) बेंगलुरू - 29
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH AND NEURO SCIENCES
Institute of National Importance, Bengaluru -560029
Ph: 080 – 2699 5708 / 5127 | www.nimhans.ac.in | Email : recruitment@nimhans.net
No. NIMH/RECT/ADVT-1/B&C/2026-27 Date: 08.06.2026
NOTIFICATION
NIMHANS invites applications for the following vacant posts through offline mode from Indian Nationals residing in India and abroad:

Sl No	Name of the post	Group	No. of vacancy	Category	Pay level (as per 7th CPC)	Upper Age limit
1	Neuroanaesthesia Technologist	B	1	ST	Level 6 with initial Basic Pay of Rs. 35,400/-	30 years
2	Accountant	B	1	UR	Level 6 with initial Basic Pay of Rs. 35,400/-	30 years
3	Junior Secretarial Assistant	C	1	OBC	Level 2 with initial Basic Pay of Rs. 19,900/-	27 years

IMPORTANT NOTICE:
- Fill the application carefully after reading the given instructions.
- All applicant must go through the detailed advertisement, post and eligibility and ensure that they are eligible in all respect before applying.
- The eligibility of the applicant will be provisional and merely submitting the application form and appearing in examination shall not be treated as validity of eligibility and Candidature shall stands cancelled in case any ineligibility detected at any stage of recruitment process including after joining on an offered post.
- The last date and time for submission of applications is **07.07.2026 up to 04:30 PM.**
- **Refer NIMHANS Website www.nimhans.ac.in for detailed Notification.** Sd/-
DIRECTOR

PUBLIC NOTICE
We are investigating the title of **M/s. Modern Space Builders LLP**, a Limited Liability Partnership Firm, having its registered office at No. 73/2, Chambenahalli Village, Dommasandra Post, Sarjapur Main Road, Bangalore - 562 125 ("**Owner**") with respect to converted land situated at Kommasandra Village Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, morefully described in the schedule hereunder and hereinafter together referred to as the "**Schedule Property**".
Any person or entity including any lender/bank/financial institution having any objection, share, benefit, demand, claim, right, title and/or interest in respect of the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of agreement, allotment, inheritance, development rights, share, sale, transfer, exchange, mortgage, lease, under-lease, assignment, family settlement, family arrangement, outstanding taxes and/or levies, outgoings & maintenance, lien, license, gift, possession, tenancy, sub-tenancy, bequest, trust, charge, pledge, guarantee, easement, loans, advances, lis-pendens, litigation, arbitration, injunction or any other attachment, or under any decree, order or award passed by any Court of Law, Tribunal, Revenue or Statutory Authority or arbitration, right of prescription or pre-emption or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate the same to the undersigned in writing within **fourteen (14) days** from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their/its claim, if any, with all supporting documents, failing which the transaction shall be completed without reference to such claim/s, and the claims, if any, of such person/s shall be treated as waived and not binding on our clients.
SCHEDULE
All that piece and parcel of the converted lands situated at Kommasandra Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and bounded on:

Sl No.	Survey Number	Extent A	Extent G	Boundaries East	West	North	South
1.	179/1	1	00	Land in Survey No. 62	Land in Survey No. 179/2	Land in Survey Nos. 62 & 178/2	Land in Survey Nos. 62 & 180
2.	179/3	1	00	Land in Survey No. 179/2	Land in Survey No. 179/4	Land in Survey Nos. 178/1, 178/2 & 178/3	Land in Survey No. 180
3.	179/4	1	00	Land in Survey No. 179/3	Land in Survey No. 179/5	Land in Survey No. 178/3	Land in Survey No. 180
4.	179/5	0	20	Land in Survey No. 179/4	Land in Survey No. 179/6	Land in Survey No. 178/3	Land in Survey No. 180
5.	179/6	0	15	Land in Survey No. 179/5	Land in Survey No. 176	Land in Survey No. 178/3	Land in Survey No. 180

Malini Raju
Vidhyadhare. S
AZB & Partners,
Level 5, 37 Cunningham,
Cunningham Road, Bengaluru -560 052.
Email: malini.raju@azbpartners.com
Tel: +91 80 4240 0500
Place: Bengaluru
Date : 11.06.2026

BENGALURU SOUTH CITY CORPORATION

Office of the Executive Engineer, Anjanapura & Beguru Division, Bengaluru South City Corporation, Amrutha Nagara -Konankunte Main road, Soudamini Layout, Bengaluru-62.

No:EE/ABD/TEND/04/2026-27 **Date: 10-06-2026**

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER
(Two Cover Tender)

(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only)
The Executive Engineer, Anjanapura & Beguru Division, Bengaluru South City Corporation, Bengaluru-62 invites tenders on behalf the Commissioner from eligible contractors registered with KPWD/CPWD/BWSSB/MES/ Railways/National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl No.	Name of the work
1.	Providing Fencing/ Chain link fencing to Bengaluru South Constituency Parks. (Call-2) (Others) **Approximate Amount Put to Tender ₹.159.77 Lakhs, EMD ₹. 2,40,000.00**

Calendar of Events : (1) Uploading of Tender documents from **18-06-2026** (2) Last Date for uploading the Filled Tender Document is **19-06-2026** upto **4:00** pm. (4) Date of Technical Bid Opening of Tenders is on **20-06-2026** after **4:30** pm.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Anjanapura & Beguru Division

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Bengaluru Division, 2nd Floor, PWD Annexure Building, K.R. Circle, Bengaluru-01.
Phone: 080-22133370

No. 06/2026-27 Date: 09.06.2026

SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Item-rate tenders, for the work in PWD, **Doddaballapura** Sub Division under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in K.P.W.D. as per KPPP. Tender Notification are Published **for 01 Work (Rs. 350.00 Lakhs).** Details of the tender works can be obtained from the above Office during office hours on working days. **EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in KPP portal.**

(1) Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM on Dated: 24.06.2026. (2)** The opening of tenders through KPP portal on **Dated: 25.06.2026 at 4.30 PM** or further date and time will be Intimate.

Sd/- Executive Engineer.
DIPR/DD-C.P/1084/KSMCA/2026-27

TAMIL NADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED

Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
262713 001593	Procurement of Fuel Oil for Unit - I	22.06.2026
262713 001602	Procurement of Filler grade Precipitated Calcium Carbonate (in Jumbo Bag) for Unit - I	18.06.2026

Corrigendum if any will be issued in NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions are available in tender document at our websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

DIPR/2031/Tender/2026 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

(Read. Office: PSEB Head Office Building, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity No. U40109PB2010SGC033813.
Website: www.pspcl.in. Contact No. 96461-12344

E-Tender Enquiry No: 01/SE/MHP/2026-27/P-428 Did. 08/06/2026
Dy.CE/O&M Circle, MHP, Talwara invites e-tenders for **outsourcing the work of Routine & Preventive Maintenance. Breakdown Maintenance and Annual Overhauling of Generating Units, Switchyards and other allied equipment through contractor at Power House No.-1 to 4 of Mukerian Hydel Project Stage-1., PSPCL, Talwara (Pb).**
Last date for downloading tender documents : **06/07/2026 upto 10:00 Hrs.**
Last Date for Bid Submission:**13/07/2026 upto 11:00 Hrs.**
Interested bidders may visit PSPCL e-procurement website for details: **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in.** In case tender process is not completed due to any reason(s),no corrigendum will be published in newspapers. Details regarding corrigendum may be seen on tendering website only.
C638/26, DPR/Pb.:1079/12/2026-27/12207

Karnataka Public Work Department
(A Government of KarnatakaEnterprises)
O/O Executive Engineer PWD Division, Hosapete, Dist:-Vijayanagara

No:EE/PWD/Dn/Hosapete/TND/ AE-1 /2026-27/ 888
Date:-06.06.2026

Short Term E-Tender Notification

Tenders are invited by undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, PWD Division Hosapete, Vijayanagara Dist, for the works notified in the statement below. The bid shall be in One or Two Cover system namely technical bid and financial bid through KPP Portal, The work Indent Nos (11 Works):- 36365, 36366 , 36121, 36389, 36305, 36304, 36303, 36302, 36301, 36371&36370. Last Date of Tender Submission/Pre-Bid Meeting & Tender Opening from this office and for more information visit following link https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Note: If any changes either in Tender date, Retender or any other conditions , Tenderers shall be viewed in kppp Portal, No Separate Advertisement / Notification will be published.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division Hosapete,

DIPR/Vijayanagar/2026-27/KSMCA/RO No/131

कार्यालय मुख्य अभियन्ता, नगर निगम, बरेली
अल्पकालीन पुनः ई-निविदा आमन्त्रण सूचना

पत्रांकः 90/मु0अभि0/नि0वि0/2026-27 दिनांकः 08.06.2026

नगर निगम, बरेली द्वारा नगर निगम, बरेली के कर्मचारियों हेतु रामपुर गार्डन परिसर, बरेली (उ0प्र0) में 2 बीएचके एवं 3 बीएचके आवासीय भवनों का डिजाइन, इंजीनियरिंग, सामग्री की आपूर्ति, निर्माण, परीक्षण, कमीशनिंग एवं हैंडओवर कार्य EPC (Engineering, Procurement & Construction) (टर्नकी) आधार पर कराये जाने हेतु योग्य, अनुभवी एवं पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों / फर्मों से टू-विड पद्धति (तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय) के माध्यम से निम्न प्रकार से ई-निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा खोले जाने की तिथि में यदि अवकाश होगा तो निविदायें अगले कार्य दिवस में खोली जायेंगी।

अवस्थापना निधि के अन्तर्गत पुनः ई-निविदा आमंत्रित हेतु (क्रमांक सं0. 01)	
ई-निविदा डाउनलोड प्रारम्भ की तिथि/समय	12.06.2026 (11:00 AM)
ई-निविदा अपलोड की प्रारम्भ तिथि/समय	12.06.2026 (10:00 PM)
ई-निविदा अपलोड की अन्तिम तिथि/समय	18.06.2026 (05:00 PM)
ई-निविदा खोली जाने की तिथि/समय	19.06.2026 (12:00 PM)
फाईनेशियल ई-निविदा खोली जाने हेतु	After Technical Evaluation

कार्य का विवरण, नियम व शर्तें नगर निगम बरेली के वेबसाईट www.nagarnigambareilly.com पर ई-निविदा लिंक एवं ई-पोर्टल http://etender.up.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है। किसी परिवर्तन, संशोधन व अतिरिक्त सूचनाओं के लिये उक्त वेबसाइट पर देखी जा सकती है।

मुख्य अभियन्ता
नगर निगम, बरेली।

KARNATAKA STATE INDUSTRIAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (KSIIDC)

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
"Khanija Bhavan", 4th Floor, East Wing, 49, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560 001. Tele: 080-22258131-32-33,
E-mail: murthy.ksiidc@gmail.com / info@ksiidc.com web: www.ksiidc.karnataka.gov.in

NOTIFICATION FOR RECRUITMENT OF LAND ADVISOR ON CONTRACT BASIS

Karnataka State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (KSIIDC) is a premier Infrastructure Development Institution of the Government of Karnataka, functioning as the Nodal Agency for development and management of Airports and other Infrastructure Projects in the State, invites applications from eligible candidates for recruitment to the following post on a contract basis.

Sl. No.	Name of the post	Qualification and Experiences	Monthly consolidated Remuneration	Age Limit
1	Land Advisor (Contract)	Retired officers of the rank of Deputy Tahsildar/ Tahsildar and retired Special Land Acquisition Officers (SLAOs) from the Revenue / Land Survey Department. Extensive experience in land administration, and acquisition, revenue matters, survey operation, and related Government procedures. Knowledge of Kannada, including the ability to speak, read and write, is essential.	Last Drawn Basic Pay less 10%	Should not exceed **65 years** as on the last date for submission of application

General Instructions:
1. The appointment for the post of Land Advisor shall be on a contract basis for a period of one (1) year. The contract may be extended based on the Corporation's requirements and the candidate's performance
2. The mode of selection shall be based on educational qualifications, relevant experience, and performance in the interview.
3. Interested candidates are required to submit their resumes along with proof of retirement, copies of educational qualification and experience certificates either by Speed Post or in person to the Deputy General Manager (P&A), KSIIDC, at the above-mentioned address.
4. The applications must reach **within 15 days** from the date of publication of this notification. The date and time of the interview will be intimated separately.
5. For any clarification, please contact Deputy General Manager (Mobile No.: 98458-33566)
6. The corporation reserves the right to reject incomplete, any or all applications.

Sd/- Executive Director

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited

(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)
No. CGM(Tech)/DGM(PROC &APCC)/EE-Proc2/AE-4/2026-27/1459-1477 Date: 10.06.2026
KPTCL invites Bids **(on Percentage rate basis)** on electronic mode for the following works in a **Combined Package** against following Enquiry Numbers on **Partial Turnkey Basis,** including Supply of all Materials/Equipments and Erection(including dismantling & Civil Works) of all Materials/Equipments, Testing and Commissioning.

Enquiry numbers & Name of the works

KPTCL/2026-27/SS/WORK_INDENT3816

Work-A : Augmentation of **2x20MVA,** 66/11kV Power Transformers by **2x31.5MVA,** 66/11kV Power Transformers at **66/11kV Electronic City Phase-2, Sector-2 (Malgudi)** sub-station in Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District.

Work-B: Providing Additional **1x31.5MVA,** 66/11kV Power Transformer at **66/11kV Prestige Shanthinikethan sub-station** in Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District.

Work-C: Augmentation of existing **2x20MVA,** 66/11kV Power Transformers by **2x31.5MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformers at 66/11kV Arehalli** sub-station in Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District.

KPTCL/2026-27/SS/WORK_INDENT3836

Work-A: Augmentation of **2x20MVA,** 66/11kV Power Transformers by **2x31.5MVA,** 66/11kV Power Transformers at **66/11kV Bannerghatta Road** sub-station in Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District.

Work-B: Augmentation of **2x20MVA,** 66/11kV Power Transformers by **2x31.5MVA,** 66/11kV Power Transformers at **66/11kV Jigani** Old sub-station in Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District.

Work-C: Augmentation of existing **2x12.5MVA,** 66/11kV Power Transformers by **2x31.5MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformers at 66/11kV Chokkasandra** sub-station in Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District.

The bids will be received through KPP Portal only. The details regarding participation in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink **"E Procurement KPTCL"** or **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **12.06.2026 @ 15:00hrs. Any extension of Due date for Bid submission will be intimated in the KPP Portal.** Any details required in this regard can also be had from the Office of the undersigned during Office hours.

All Corrigendum/Addendums shall be noticed by the bidders before the last date of submission of the Bids.

Sd/- Chief General Manager(Tech.,),
KPTCL, Corporate Office, 11th Floor,
Indhana Bhavan, A.R.Circle, Bengaluru - 560 009.

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (Through KPP Portal Only)

BWSSB invites tenders in two stage tender system from eligible contractors for the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	Amount put to Tender / EMD Amount
Office of the Chief Engineer (Cauvery Headworks), 8th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore- 560 009.		
No.:BWSSB/CE(CH)TE/TA-01/107/2025/156/2026-27		**Date:09.06.2026**
1	Upgradation of SCADA System from analog type to new advanced technology at 4th Stage, Phase I WTP at T.K. Halli.	Rs. 359.65 Lakhs / Rs. 5.40 Lakhs

For the above work, Last date for receipt of tenders: **10.07.2026 upto 15:00 Hrs.** Tenders will be opened on: **13.07.2026 at 16.00 Hrs.**

Sd/- Chief Engineer(Cauvery Headworks)

Office of the Chief Engineer (Design&QA), 9th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore- 560 009.		
IFT No.:BWSSB/CE(D&QA)/ACE/TA/306/2026-27		**Date:10.06.2026**
2	Sinking of 6.5 Inch dia new borewell with necessary accessaries at various locations of Mahadevapura Constituency (110 Villages) coming under AEE(BW&PS)-2-2 Sub Divisions **(3rd Call).**	Rs. 398.21 Lakhs / Rs. 5,97,500/-

For the above work, Last date for receipt of tenders: **18.06.2026 upto 16:00 Hrs.** Technical Tenders will be opened on: **19.06.2026 at 16.00 Hrs.**

Sd/- Chief Engineer(Design & QA)

The details regarding the tender and participatin in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/JA/1085/2026-27

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED

(Wholly owned Government of Karnataka undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(e-Procurement mode only)

General Manager (Civil), corporate office, BESCOM invites tender for the following works through E-Procurement mode only.

Tender Number	Name of the work	Approximate Amount put to tender (Excluding GST) in Rs. Lakhs	Last Date for Submission of Tenders
BESCOM/ 2026-27/OW/ WORK_INDENT 1106	Providing Shelter and ACP and LED sign board to EV Charging stations in BESCOM Office premises at Jigani, Indhana Bhavana, Sarjapura, Dabaspete, Malur and Nangli. (Reserved for Schedule Caste)	84.73	29.06.2026
BESCOM/ 2026-27/OW/ WORK_INDENT 1107	Providing Shelter and ACP and LED sign board to EV Charging stations in BESCOM Office premises at Kyathasandra, Gubbi, Hiriyur, Challakere, Rampura.	93.19	29.06.2026

Further details of the tender can be obtained from website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after **12.06.2026.**

For any BESCOM related Complaints Call: 1912
Please Download BESCOM Mitra Mobile App

Sd/-
General Manager (Civil)
BESCOM, Bengaluru

RAIL COACH FACTORY, KAPURTHALA

On-line Tenders are invited by PCMM, RCF on behalf of President of India for following items:-

Sr. No.	Tender No. / Due Date	Description		Qty.(Nos./ Sets)	EMD (Rs.)
1.	12261070/06.07.2026	Supply of One Coach Set of look out and other Glasses for Train 18 DTC Coaches		18 Set	288710/-
2.	02261245/06.07.2026	Harness of Under Frame and Roof Arrangement for LHB EOG GS NON AC Coaches for Amrit Bharat Rake			2000000/-
3.	02261246/06.07.2026	Harness of Under Frame and Roof Arrangement for LHB EOG SCN NON AC Coaches for Amrit Bharat Rake			1731600/-
4.	02261253/07.07.2026	Integrated 60 KVA (55 KVA + 5 KVA) Transformer			572300/-
5.	02261250/06.07.2026	Harness of Under Frame and Roof Arrangement for LHB EOG SLRD NON AC Coaches for Amrit Bharat Rake			411540/-
6.	13265095/01.07.2026	Advanced Bogie Load Testing Machine, PL No.659046560011		01 Nos	826000/-
7.	17261203/06.07.2026	Supply & fitment of Seats and Berths arrangement for LHB AC RA Coach		31 Sets	240590/-
8.	05261333/03.07.2026	2-Types of Set of Horizontal Member for 3 Phase Memu Coaches	PL No. 31985701	150 Set	199250/-
			31985543	55 Set	
9.	05261199/08.07.2026	2-Types of Set of End Construction for Memu TC Coaches	PL No. 30988810	101 Set	1456540/-
			31154918	213 Set	
10.	05261351/08.07.2026	2-Types of End Construction for 3PH Memu/DMC with Medha Electrical	PL No. 37985012	22 Nos	181820/-
			37985036	50 Nos	
11.	05261353/06.07.2026	2-Types of End Construction (Alarm End) with BHEL Electric for Three Phase Memu/DMC Coach	PL No. 31985385	24 Nos.	116470/-
			31985415	23 Nos.	
12.	05261341/02.07.2026	Set of Flat Roof ASSLY for HS SPART SUPE	PL No. 33532710	14 Set	82880/-
13.	05261350/10.07.2026	Set of End Wall Assly for LHB Power Car Coach		40 Set	1,65,680/-
14.	05261356/09.07.2026	Cross Member	PL No. 33553658	3383 Nos	147670/-
			33554456	482 Nos	
15.	05261324/09.07.2026	Set of Partition Frame		150,50,57 Set	1909840/-
16.	02261258/07.07.2026	Led Light fitting for Compartment		11254 Nos	266740/-
17.	05261300/10.07.2026	Supply Installation Commissioning & Testing of EP Brake System for HS Spart		11 Sets	2000000/-
18.	05261340/13.07.2026	Body Side Sliding Door		1852 Set	2000000/-
19.	01261105/06.07.2026	Pad For Secondary Suspension		1040 Nos.	238420/-
20.	01261123/06.07.2026	Air Spring 140 KN for LHB Coaches		22 Sets	261680/-

1. For details and making On-line bids, visit Website **http://ireps.gov.in.** Drawings/specifications, wherever required can be downloaded from RCF Website **http://www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in**. Class IIIb digital signature certificate required for on-line bidding, can be obtained from licensed certifying agencies listed at **http://www.cce.gov.in**
2. Tenders will close at **14.25 HRS.** on due date and tender will be opened at **14.30 HRS.** Tenders **Sr. No.1 to 14** will be open at RCF Kapurthala and **Sr. No. 15 to 20** will be opened at Tilak Bridge, New Delhi.
3. For queries, contact IREPS Help desk at 011-24102855, 011-24105180 or RCF help desk at 011-23378658.

Note: GST Number of RCF is 03AAAGM0289C1ZT. All the suppliers are advised to quote this in dispatch documents for the supplies made by them.

PCMM

No. : 026-S/2026-27 **Dated: 10.06.2026**

SRI JAYADEVA INSTITUTE OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCES & RESEARCH

(Govt. of Karnataka Regd. Autonomous & NABH Accredited Institute)
Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore – 560069. Ph.: 080 22977400 / 500 / 600 / 216 / 217 / 276
E-mail: director.sjicr@gmail.com Website: www.jayadevacardiology.com

No.: SJICR/TS/24/2026-27 **Date: 10.06.2026**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences & Research, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru invites tender for the following services in two bid system from eligible tenderers through KPP portal of Government of Karnataka:

Sl. No.	Tender Notification / Indent No.	Name of the Service
1	SJICR/2026-27/SE0056 dt. 10-06-2026	Supply of medical gases (oxygen)- IP to SJICR, Sardar Vallabhai Patel road, Kalaburagi.
2	SJICR/2026-27/SE0057 dt. 10-06-2026	Providing disinfestations treatment against bedbugs, cockroaches, lizards, honeybees and rodent control treatment inside the building and surrounding areas of 371 bedded, SJICR, Sardar Vallabhai Patel Road, Kalaburagi.
3	SJICR/2026-27/SE0058 dt. 10-06-2026	Operation & maintenance of medical gas equipment, pipeline for internal supply of medical gases and other allied works installed at SJICR, Sardar Vallabhai Patel Road, Kalaburagi.
4	SJICR/2026-27/SE0059 dt. 10-06-2026	Operation and maintenance of: a. DG set of capacity 2 x 750 KVA with Synchronization panel, Allied equipment. b. 11 KV HT Breaker panel with compact RMU. c. Electrical substation with 2 x 1000 KVA transformer 11 KVA / 433 volts MV panel and cables. d. Internal electrification and periodical services of Electrical installations at SJICR Kalaburagi.
5	SJICR/2026-27/SE0060 dt. 10-06-2026	Operation and comprehensive maintenance contract of centralized HVAC system installed at SJICR, Sardar Vallabhai Patel Road, Kalaburagi.
6	SJICR/2026-27/SE0061 dt. 10-06-2026	Maintenance of landscape area including ornamental trees, foliage, flower, shrubs, ground covers, indoor and outdoor plants etc at SJICR premises Sardar Vallabhai Patel Road, Kalaburagi.
7	SJICR/2026-27/SE0062 dt. 10-06-2026	Operation and maintenance of boiler equipment and allied works at SJICR, Sardar Vallabhai Patel Road, Kalaburagi.

1. The tenderers can download the documents from **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from **13.06.2026** and the last date for submission of completed tenders through e-portal is **09.07.2026 up to 4:00 PM.**
2. Date of Pre-bid meeting: **23.06.2026 at 11:30 AM.**
3. Date of Technical Bid opening: **10.07.2026 at 4:00 PM.**
4. EMD: as mentioned in the tender document
5. The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to accept / reject / cancel the tender partially or fully without assigning any reason at any stage of processing.

Sd/-,
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER I/c
DIPR/CP/LC/1100/2026-27

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHANDIGARH

E-AUCTION NOTICE

Municipal Copration, Chandigarh is going to hold E-auction for 07 Sites of Nurseries situated at village Mauli Jagran, U.T., Chandigarh by E-auction on Monthly Rent Basis on "As is where is basis".

Detail of Nursery Sites

Sr. No.	Site No.	Area	Minimum reserve price for quoting rent on monthly basis	EMD
1.	Nursery Site No. 1	2.0565 kanals (0.2570 acres)	Rs. 70,000/-	Rs. 35,500/-
2.	Nursery Site No. 2	2.1018 kanals (0.2627 acres)	Rs. 72,000/-	Rs. 36,500/-
3.	Nursery Site No. 3	2.4799 kanals (0.3099 acres)	Rs. 84,000/-	Rs. 42,500/-
4.	Nursery Site No. 4	2.8565 kanals (0.3570 acres)	Rs. 97,000/-	Rs. 49,000/-
5.	Nursery Site No. 5	3.3328 kanals (0.4166 acres)	Rs. 1,13,000/-	Rs. 57,000/-
6.	Nursery Site No. 6	4.7792 kanals (0.5973 acres)	Rs. 1,35,000/-	Rs. 68,500/-
7.	Nursery Site No. 7	5.9053 kanals (0.7381 acres)	Rs. 1,67,000/-	Rs. 84,500/-

Schedule for e-auction

Auction Publish Date	Document Submission / Payment Date		Document / Payment Approval Date		Bid Start Date	
Start	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End
11.06.26	12.06.26	21.06.26	26.06.26	03.07.26	06.07.26	06.07.26
9.00 AM	10.00 AM	5.00 PM	9.00 AM	5.00 PM	9.00 AM	3.00 PM

The detailed terms and conditions of e-auction including eligibility and earnest money deposit (EMD) and site plan can be downloaded from the website http:/eauction.gov.in/2026_CH_190

Helpline: 0172-5021521 & 9501010548

Bidders having any doubt/understanding regarding E-Auction process for nursery sites may attend a meeting on 15.06.2026 at 11:00 AM in Committee Room, 6th Floor, Sector 17, MC premises Or come to visit at Estate Branch, M.C., Chandigarh.

Joint Commissioner-II
Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh

Manju.V@timesofindia.com

Never mind superbusy Delhi and Mumbai airports, southern India beats northern and western regions on every aviation metric. A more even spread of growth centres across states in the South, and its early successes in airport-building are among reasons why Indian aviation league table has been flipped

How & why the South took command of India's skies

Aviation in India is that rare thing – a sureshot growth industry. But there's a fascinating story within this story. The South — Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Kerala — dominates aviation. Slice and dice the data any which way, southern states together fly far above every other region. And much of this change has happened over the last 10 years. Plus, in some ways, the southern aviation market has started resembling mature markets in advanced countries.

South Rules, Domestic Or International

Take recent data. Between April 2025 and March 2026, 41 out of every 100 international passengers crossing India's borders did so through a southern airport. The northern region, including Delhi, accounted for 28. The West, including Mumbai, managed 25, per Airports Authority of India numbers.

The domestic picture is just as striking. Southern airports carried one crore more passengers than the North, and 1.44 crore more than the West, despite the fact that Delhi and Mumbai, India's two busiest airports, sit in the northern and western regions.

Interestingly, a decade ago, the race was much tighter. The West led with about five crore annual domestic passengers, followed by the North at 4.8 crore, and the South at 4.6 crore. But by 2024-25, the South had crossed the 10-crore domestic passenger mark. The other regions are still waiting to get there.

Below Vindhyas, It's Like US Or Japan

This is not just a story of bigger airports or fuller flights. It is the story of an aviation market that has matured differently.

The govt's UDAN scheme, whose first flight took off in April 2017, is perhaps the clearest map of where Indian aviation still needs help. Of the 923 routes awarded nationally, UP alone accounts for 96, while Uttarakhand has another 81. Together, these two states have been awarded more routes than all the southern states combined, according to data from Rajya Sabha replies.

But awarding routes is one thing. Survival is another.

In Uttar Pradesh, UDAN flights commenced on 56 routes, but 20 were shut within three years, the highest discontinuation for any state. Uttarakhand followed with 16 discontinued routes, and Assam with 12. The contrast with the South is telling. AAI and UDAN data suggest that southern India has a more mature aviation market, where even smaller airports generate durable, year-round demand.

In that sense, parts of southern India are beginning to resemble aviation ecosystems seen in countries such as US, Japan, Canada, Australia and Norway.

In US, a traveller from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, can board a regional aircraft to Chicago, connect to a domestic jet service to New York, and then continue on a long-haul international flight to Delhi. In Japan, turboprops link remote islands and regional centres, such as Tokunoshima, to Kagoshima, feeding passengers into larger national hubs. The defining feature of such systems is a seamless progression: small regional aircraft, then domestic jet services, then international long-haul flights.

This structure is now increasingly visible in the South.

Take Rajahmundry, the textile hub often called the "Bombay of the South". IndiGo and Fly91 together operate 10 daily departures from Hyderabad to the city. It is an hour-long hop on an ATR aircraft, compared with about seven hours by road. The first ATR leaves Hyderabad for Rajahmundry at 6.50am; the last departs at 8pm. Rajahmundry is also connected by non-stop flights to Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru and Chennai.

The comparison with Cedar Rapids is instructive. This city in Iowa, the world's largest corn-processing centre, is connected to Chicago with eight daily non-stop flights, though by faster regional jets. Like in the case of Cedar Rapids, Rajahmundry's network shows how deeply air connectivity has begun to penetrate.

Compare this with airports serving similarly sized cities in other parts of India, and the South's distinct aviation model becomes apparent. The region has what analysts might call a full aviation stack: regional turboprops connecting smaller cities, narrow-body jets on trunk routes between state capitals and major metros, and a strong international layer above them. Each tier feeds the next.

This is a structure that the north and west, for all their traffic volumes, have not yet replicated at scale.

Consider IndiGo, India's largest airline. According to an aviation official, the airline deploys about 60% of its regional ATR turboprop fleet across just three stations: Hyderabad, Bengaluru and Chennai.

What Makes South The Leader

Aviation experts **TOI** spoke to identified the South's economic dynamism as the key reason.

"Demand in the South is not reliant on one or two large metros, but distributed across a network of economically active cities... these have strong interlinkages across technology, manufacturing, healthcare, education and exports," said Ashish Chhawchharia, partner, Grant Thornton Bharat. "This creates a more resilient and diversified traffic base, compared to regions where demand is concentrated around a few hubs or seasonal travel."

Tamil Nadu has Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Salem and Thoothukudi, each sustaining regular scheduled flight services independently. Karnataka has Bengaluru, Mysuru, Hubballi and Belagavi. Andhra Pradesh has Vijayawada, Tirupati, Rajahmundry, Kadapa and Kurnool.

"These are not subsidised experiments in regional connectivity. They are commercial decisions, made because the demand is there, day after day, flight after flight," said the aviation official quoted earlier.

Suprio Banerjee, vice-president and co-group head, Corporate Ratings, ICRA, said the south's passenger strength is rooted in its economic structure, airport infrastructure network, and the presence of key cities, which generate frequent business travel to both domestic and international destinations.

Demand in the South is not reliant on one or two large metros, but distributed across a network of economically active cities

"The dominance of IT services, with Bengaluru and Hyderabad emerging as major hubs for client-facing technology roles, along with the region's start-up and venture capital ecosystem, has helped push both international traffic, and short-haul domestic travel between Southern metros, he said.

Chhawchharia added that a key differentiator for the South is its early "industrialisation" in sectors that drive high-frequency air travel, particularly IT services, global capability centres, electronics, pharmaceuticals, and advanced manufacturing. These industries attract talent from across the country, creating sustained air traffic into cities such as Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Chennai.

"These cities function as national business gateways with deep domestic and international connectivity needs. At the same time, Tier-2 markets are more integrated into the formal economy, sustaining demand beyond metro-to-metro routes," he said.

As GCCs multiply across the region and data centre investments pour in, that demand base keeps compounding. "Economically anchored routes tend to deliver more stable, recurring passenger flows over time," said Chhawchharia.

UDAN data reinforces that point. The North has a larger operational UDAN network, with 215 routes, compared with 141 in the South. But it has also seen far higher route attrition. Discontinued routes in the North are equivalent to 26% of its operationalised network. In the South, the figure is just 12%. Kerala leads the UDAN success list, with 12 routes operationalised and none discontinued.

The Kerala (Aviation) Story

Kerala's contribution to the South's aviation dominance, however, comes from a very different engine: international traffic.

At Kozhikode, 76% of all passengers are international travellers. At Thiruvananthapuram, international passengers outnumber domestic ones, 53% to 47%. At most Indian airports, including Delhi and Mumbai, the typical split is around 30% international and 70% domestic. Kerala's overseas traffic, driven largely by its Gulf links and migration economy, is a major reason why Southern states have accounted for around 40% of India's international traffic for at least a decade.

Airports Matter, Too

Infrastructure has also played a decisive role in the South's aviation success story.

Delhi and Mumbai have been operating beyond comfortable capacity for decades, their terminals and runways stretched by demand that long outpaced supply. Both cities have only recently begun to address the problem, with Navi Mumbai airport commissioned in December 2025 and Noida-Jewar airport set to commence operations this month, corrections that were decades overdue.

The South, by contrast, entered the modern airport era with newer runways and cleaner blueprints. Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport and Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Airport are both greenfield facilities that opened in 2008. They were purpose-built, modern airports designed for growth, unlike Delhi, Mumbai, and Kolkata, whose infrastructure carries the weight of seven or eight decades of incremental expansion.

Today, four of India's ten busiest airports by passenger traffic are in the South: Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai, and Kochi. No other region matches that concentration. Bengaluru is already planning a massive second airport. Visakhapatnam is preparing for its next chapter too, with Bhogapuram International Airport expected to open soon. It will serve a city rapidly emerging as a hub for artificial intelligence, data centres, and global capability centres, attracting investments from Google, Reliance, TCS, Infosys, and Capgemini, among others.

Inverting Aviation History

Indian aviation, of course, began its commercial journey in the West. In 1932, JRD Tata flew his historic airmail service from Karachi to Mumbai, via Ahmedabad. For decades thereafter, Mumbai had India's busiest airport, and the Western corridor remained the gravitational centre of Indian flying: the busiest routes, the thickest traffic, the headquarters of the national carrier.

But Mumbai's congested airport could not keep pace with demand. Around the turn of the century, Delhi overtook it to become the country's busiest airport.

Now, that geography of dominance has been redrawn again.

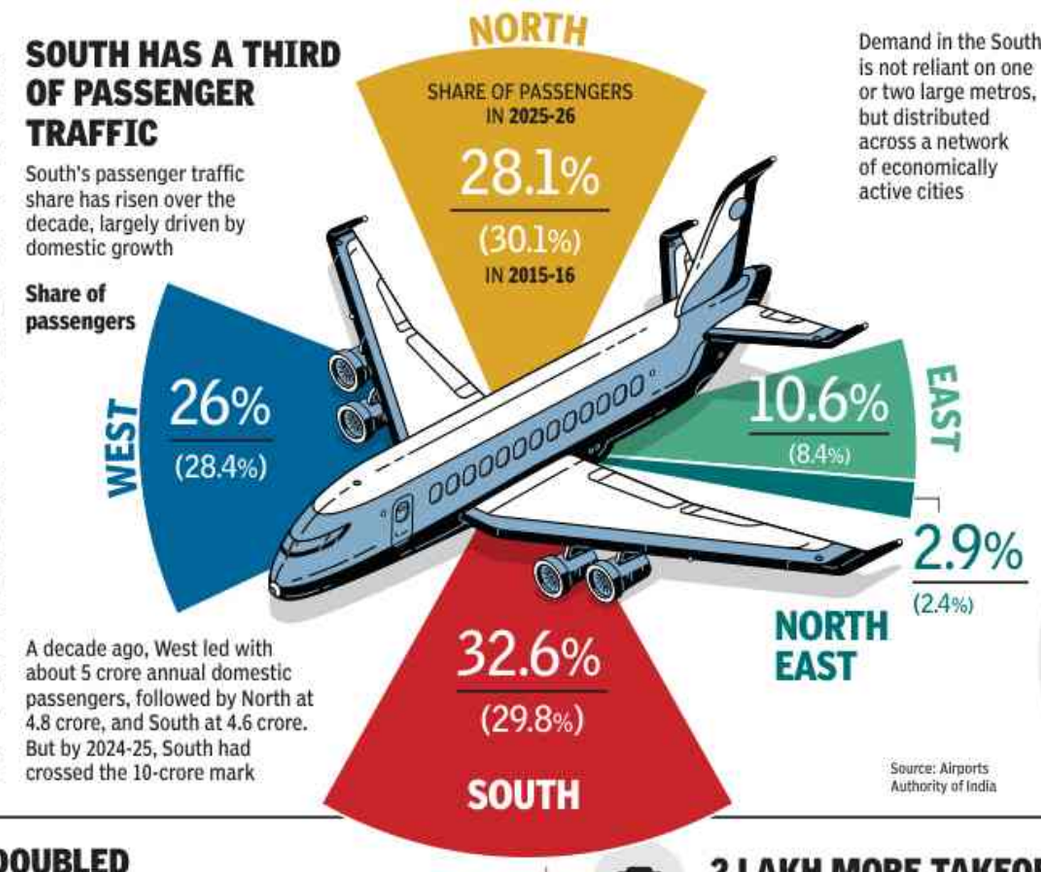
The signs were visible as early as 2007-08 in AAI's own segment revenue data. That year, the South generated revenue of Rs 1,538 crore, the highest of any region in the country, ahead of the West's Rs 1,150 crore, and the North's Rs 995 crore. In the years since, the South has only strengthened its lead.

Indian aviation once moved along a West-to-North axis, from Mumbai's old dominance to Delhi's rise. The next chapter is being written further south, across a lattice of business cities, temple towns, Gulf gateways, textile hubs, technology centres, and new airports.

The south is not merely adding passengers. It is building a whole new aviation system.

SOUTH HAS A THIRD OF PASSENGER TRAFFIC

South's passenger traffic share has risen over the decade, largely driven by domestic growth



A decade ago, West led with about 5 crore annual domestic passengers, followed by North at 4.8 crore, and South at 4.6 crore. But by 2024-25, South had crossed the 10-crore mark

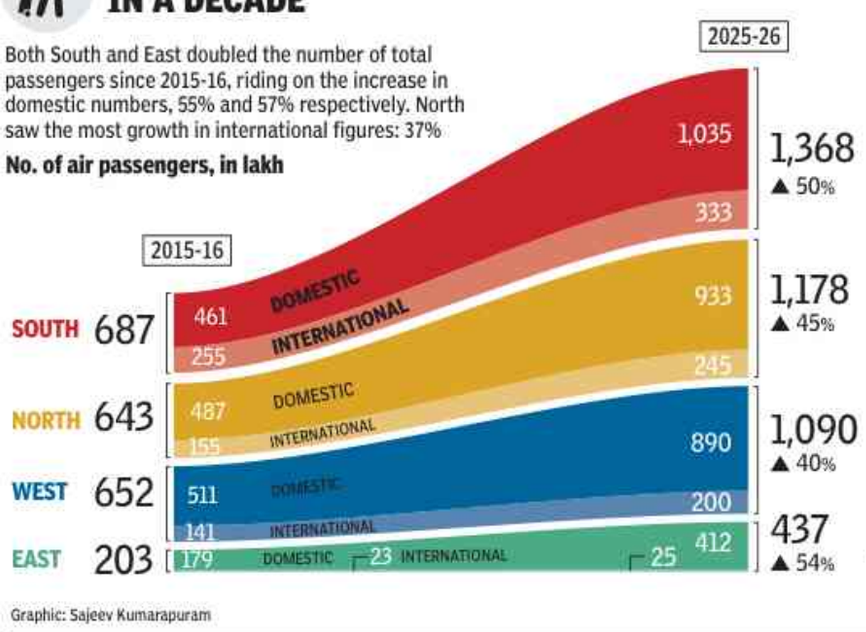
Source: Airports Authority of India

AAI's five geographical regions, segregated for administrative and operational network

PASSENGERS DOUBLED IN A DECADE

Both South and East doubled the number of total passengers since 2015-16, riding on the increase in domestic numbers, 55% and 57% respectively. North saw the most growth in international figures: 37%

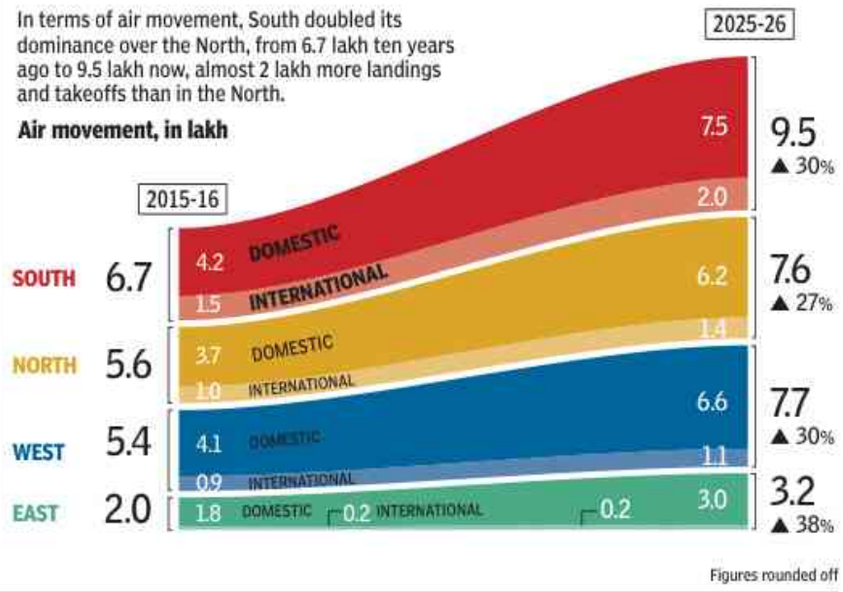
No. of air passengers, in lakh



2 LAKH MORE TAKEOFFS/ LANDINGS THAN NORTH

In terms of air movement, South doubled its dominance over the North, from 6.7 lakh ten years ago to 9.5 lakh now, almost 2 lakh more landings and takeoffs than in the North.

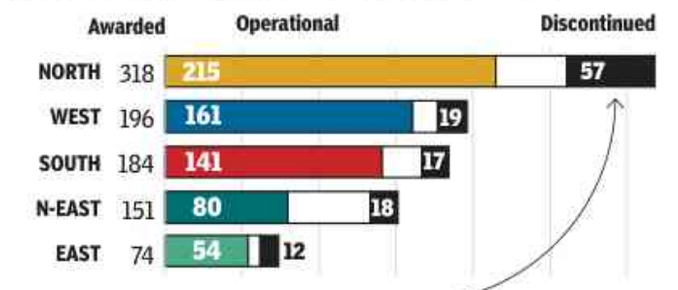
Air movement, in lakh



Graphic: Sajeev Kumarapuram

Figures rounded off

NORTH HAS THE MOST UDAN ROUTES



Source: Rajya Sabha

UP tops the list of discontinued routes (20), followed by Uttarakhand (16) and Assam (12), indicating significant route attrition in key regional markets

Delhi high court grants bail to terror funding accused

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New Delhi: Delhi high court Wednesday granted bail to "human rights" activist Khurram Parvez held in judicial custody for over four years in a UAPA case for alleged terror funding, conspiracy to wage war against India, and recruitment of youths for Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

Observing the "long period of incarceration and no likelihood of the trial ending soon", Justices Navin Chawla and Ravinder Dudeja granted him bail on a bond of Rs 2 lakh.

Among many allegations, the prosecution highlighted Parvez's role during the post-Burhan Wani encounter agitation in Kashmir in 2016., adding "he actively involved in instigating and providing material support to the protestors in the Kashmir valley".

Govt plans to make transfer of vehicle ownership seamless

▶ Continued from page 1

Second, once you have a system to give negative points to drivers for violations and link it to suspension or cancellation of their licence, bad drivers will be reined in. In such cases, they will have to undergo refresher training or undergo a test for getting a fresh licence," said an official.

People aware of the development said a high-level committee set up by govt has recommended that the ministry expedite these reforms. "Why does one need to apply for renewal? This can be made automatic and required fee can be collected online," said an official.

Officials added that after the successful pilot of automatic removal of hypothecation from vehicles through an online system once the loan is fully repaid, ministry is working on the plan to make transfer of vehicle ownership seamless.

NIA seeks bail cancellation of two more Elgar case accused

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Mumbai: Nearly a month after seeking cancellation of the bail granted to two 2018 Elgar Parishad case accused—activist and lawyer Sudha Bharadwaj and poet Varavara Rao — NIA Wednesday moved a similar plea in a special court against two co-accused, activists Vernon Gonsalves and Arun Ferreira, citing wilful violation of bail conditions.

NIA alleged that along with other co-accused, they violated court-imposed restrictions over being in contact with each other by participating in a gathering in Mumbai on Jan 19. It alleged the meeting was organised to propagate the ideology of the banned CPI (Maoist) and deliberate on the future course of the "Urban Naxal" movement, which the prosecution claimed poses a direct threat to national security.

The matter will come up for hearing on June 19. The accused have to submit their replies to NIA's plea.

Bharathiraja, Aladdin of Tamil films, dies at 84

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Chennai: Tamil film director Bharathiraja, whose rustic themes won millions of hearts across the world — and six national awards — died in Chennai after prolonged illness. He was 84.

Born in Theni-Allinagaram as Chinnasamy, Bharathiraja worked briefly as a malaria inspector in the Tamil Nadu health department. After short apprenticeships under different directors, he announced his arrival with a bang in 1977, with *16 Vayadhiniley*. A cult movie that marked the beginning of a new era in Tamil cinema, it immortalised the characters played by Rajinikanth, Kamal Haasan and Sridevi.

Like Aladdin swiping the magic lamp to set free the genie, Bharathiraja liberated Tamil cinema that had remained bottled up in studio sets and shooting floors. His *16 Vayadhiniley* revealed the rugged and lush beauty of TN countryside to both movie-makers and movie-goers.

1942 - 2026

From the lush green fields of Theni and manicured grass hills of Ooty, to the rugged, cactus-rich dust bowl of Usilampatti and the rock-strewn beaches of Muttam, he introduced his audiences to the charms of authentic rural landscapes.

Asked about his achievement, Bharathiraja would famously tell a film gathering later: "Cinema took me to Chennai. I took the cinema to my villages. I filmed the life of laymen." His second film, *Kizhakkey Pogum Rayil*, was a runaway hit, while *Sigappu Rojakkal*, a psychological thriller starring Kamal Haasan and Sridevi, and *Alaigal Oayvathillai*, a sparkling teenage romance, were among the many pathbreaking movies he churned out. He turned producer for his fourth film, *Puthiya Vaarpugal*, and made his assistant director K Bhagyaraj debut as actor alongside Rati Agnihotri. Both of them went on to become big stars in years to come.

That was Bharathiraja. He could cast anyone and shoot anywhere, for his craft was the hero. He spawned countless directors and actors.

Between 1988 and 1993, at least six of Bharathiraja's films didn't do well at the box office. These included his big-budget home production, *Kodi Parakkuthu (1988)*, starring Rajinikanth.

As the industry began to wonder if it was end-card for the 'Iyakkunar Imayam' (Himalayan director), he went back to his roots and dug out his double-gems – *Kizhakku Seemaiyile* (1993) which is the most authentic movie spun on a Madurai-canvas, and *Karuthamma* (1994), which captured female infanticide rampant in southern TN districts at that time.

EC has powers to reverse RO's order: Cong

▶ Continued from page 1

An AICC delegation led by general secretary KC Venugopal, lawyer-MPs Singhvi, Vivek Tankha, and Randeep Surjewala, among others, met EC. Singhvi said EC has powers under Article 324 of the Constitution to overturn the RO's order, and it should be done immediately.

The lawyer said Section 33(A) of the Representation of People's Act states that a candidate has to disclose only those cases that have a punishment of over two years and in which the charges have been framed, adding that charges are framed by a judge in the judicial process.

In case of Natarajan, Singhvi said it is a private complaint which can be baseless, and which the magistrate may or may not take cognisance of. "Natarajan has just received a notice to come to the court and tell why cognisance should not be taken," Singhvi added. "We hope that EC realises that such an order creates a non-level playing field," he told reporters.

Anil Ambani gets relief in tax case

Mumbai: The Bombay High Court has granted interim protection from prosecution and penalty to industrialist Anil Ambani in an alleged tax evasion case, while admitting his petition challenging the constitutional validity of provisions of the Black Money Act.

Ambani, in his plea, said certain provisions of the (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015, were "ultra vires" (beyond the powers/violative) to the Constitution of India.

A bench of Justices BP Colabawalla and Firdosh Pooniwalla on Tuesday noted that there are other petitions filed in HC against the Act and admitted Ambani's plea, and directed the Union government to file its affidavit in response to the plea.

The Income Tax department issued a notice to Ambani on August 8, 2022, for allegedly evading Rs 420 crore in taxes on undisclosed funds of more than Rs 814 crore held in two Swiss bank accounts. PTI

A thought for today

There are worse things than being exploited, and being redundant and unable to make a living is one of them

ZEYNEP TUFEKCI

Control, Shift

AI is not destroying the job market, but changing it. There will be jobs aplenty if you update your skills

In white-collar circles, this is the best of times. The first trillionaire is just round the corner. This is also the worst of times – millions of jobs are at risk from AI. A new poll shows more than half of all Americans fear they, or someone in their family, could be out of work. In London, 46% of jobs are such that parts of them can be easily automated. And in India, global back office of IT, it looks like campus placements are no longer an entitlement. TCS chairman N Chandrasekaran has said, days of hiring at scale are over, and the future of work is equal parts human intelligence and AI.

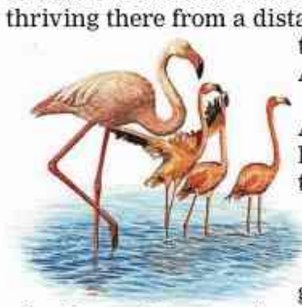
It's natural to be nervous when the future starts *seeming* so uncertain. When old certainties – STEM course, top college, campus placement, steady job – are demolished. So, as individuals, we are worried, but what about the big picture? Are we all – or most of us – going to be jobless? Is it time to decide how we'll distribute apples, oranges, movie tickets, cars, etc, when nobody has an income to buy them? No, because this isn't the end of work, it's just a massive shake-up. And it's not the first. Someone whose last memory is from the 1940s, won't recognise 60% of jobs today. And, we don't know what new jobs await us in 2036. But if the past is a template, there will be many more.

As **TOI** reported yesterday, Chandrasekaran, and SAP CEO Christian Klein, have dropped some clues. The biggest opportunity of all lies in training AI models to do real-world tasks. The global economy is incredibly complex. You could fill a few volumes just listing the different types of toys made around the world. Add clothes, shoes, cookies, hotels… But the AI we dread – whether ChatGPT, or Gemini, or Claude – takes a one-size-fits-all approach, mostly. To replace humans at supply chain jobs, say, AI needs customisation and training. And who will do it, if not humans? So, a tide of new jobs is coming. The first signs have already appeared in the hardware market. Where the talk was all about GPUs – needed to train AI models – for the past five years, now good old CPUs – essential for real-world task deployment – are rising again. We'll be just fine, long-term. As for the short-term, new learning, retraining, and money in the bank, will get us through. Don't neglect that war chest.

Pink Line In The Sand

Not every island is for the Trump khandaan to profiteer, especially when flamingos got there first

Sazan. Say it softly. You don't have to be Albanian to really like the word. It's got Open Sesame feels. A magical incantation taking you into an otherworldly space. Sa-zan. For ordinary Albanians, the island by this name has come to have a haunting vibe. They have never made it there. Through the 20th century it served as a secretive military base for the Italians, Soviets, communists. Then, the collapse of communism brought good fortune to Sazan too. Nature began clawing back lost ground. Nothing spoke ecological rebirth louder than the return of flamingos. Most Albanians still don't get to go to Sazan or the surrounding wetlands. They watch the flamingos thriving there from a distance only. Still, they treasure the life of the birds, their pink striking against the Adriatic grey light.



Hence, the flamingo revolution. It's Albanians protesting against Jared Kushner and Ivanka Trump plotting to turn Sazan into a $1.4bn plus luxury resort. To them, this is as galling as Trump's Riviera-style Gaza plan was for Gazans. Of course, Albania's govt gave the go-ahead to Kushner's plan only after Trump 2.0 got underway. It's hardly the only one trying to suck up to the world's most powerful man by sweetening his *damaad*. But it alone is in the (un)happy position of giving this family a Christopher Columbus ego kick. Ivanka's spoken of being on a friend's boat (a friend called Rothschild), stopping for a swim, 'finding' the island, climbing to its top barefoot, being just captivated. So, naturally, she set about sending in the bulldozers.

People in different corners of the world can feel united by the oddest things. Mumbaikars would certainly understand what the Albanians are trying to protect. They, too, cherish a horizon of flamingos. And every project proposal that endangers it, sees a fierce public pushback. The beautiful pink bird on one leg, isn't it inhuman to drown it in a billionaire's infinity pool?

Testy time

If mantris sat for exams, how would they fare?

Bachi Karkaria

Now that cockroaches are swarming all over the place, we put ministries in the exam hall to see how they'd perform. Their published results too bristled with discrepancies. Most of them got the highest *and* lowest marks – depending on who examined the answer sheets, *sarkar* itself or *janata*. Naturally, Opposition was kept out. Here are the scores.

Education: This should have led this list, but its abysmal ranking is being media mauled every day; no need to repeat.

Home: This is permanent headliner, so let's begin with it instead. Even many external examiners gave it 100%; and everyone can see how hard it works to achieve its goals. But there was no 'rah-rah' from those it told to '*ja ja*'. In the Elections paper, lakhs had cried 'SIR, too many illogical discrepancies in my results.' In WB, it was too late for those who failed – including star student Banerjee M. During the CAA exam, in centres such as Delhi, Assam and UP, many had shouted, '**C**an't **A**ccept **A**nnihilation, please reassess our papers!' Border Security exam, similar grievances. As for conventionally contentious Centre-State Relations paper, with Home party's strike-rate, it could well be merged with History.

erratica

Finance: Clinton's 'It's the economy, stupid' is now 'It's the stupid economy'. *Suno-ji*, we'll soon be world's 5th largest, so kindly do not bring up killjoy subjects like rising prices/unemployment, falling rupee/stock market. If Mr Trump hadn't happened, finance ministry might have had to invent him.

Defence: Classified.

External Affairs: PM hugs, EAM squeezes. 90%.

Women: Maternal mortality rate, 80%; reproductive health, 18%. Sexual safety, 30%. Welfare schemes, 90% (but plenty *ghuspethiyas* here too). *Ouff*, so what if KPMG Report said low labour-force participation, 65% mid-career attrition, only 1% board presence compared to 79% aspiration? See how high women now score in cricket, etc.

Infra: Top-rank for PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, but road safety: 53 crashes, 19 dead every hour. Mega projects 90%, but 9% for mega human, social, environmental costs.

Net-net, we now wow the world. Except when we litter, pilfer, bhangra.

***

Alec Smart said: "If I kill a cockroach will I be anti-Gen Z?"

Messi, Ronaldo & Football Rebirths

In their final act on the grandest stage, the two modern greats of the game are fighting to cement their legacies. They won't have it easy. But whatever happens, such is their story, we will be riveted

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Oh my Gods! Surely, we are not having that conversation from four years ago, as the hub of expectations shifts from a compact West Asia base to the divided States of the North American continent. Deities Messi and Ronaldo still rule parallel worlds, although there is a feeling that despite the celestial weapons in their legend, young forces will emerge in the New World come July 19.

Messi turns 39 this month, Ronaldo is already 41. But will they go gently into the 'good night'? With the tick and the talk, for the one slaloming through the defensive poles, or the other, preening and prancing above the highest obstacle, the end is nigh.

It's a feeling similar to bidding goodbye to a Roger Federer or a Rafael Nadal. Also looming is the imminent departure of Novak Djokovic, who is still raging against the dying day, yearning for the final kiss of a 25th Major trophy. Peacock, Bull or Goat, you have to take your pick…

Or can you hear the last gasp of a LeBron James? All 6ft 9in of him, striding the basketball court imperiously at 41, and often generously passing the ball to an open teammate. We love him for his humility as he is disinclined to beat his chest like a Michael Jordan or a Kobe Bryant.

Hmmm…that brings us back to showman Ronaldo. He did not become the top scorer in men's international football with 143 goals for being accommodating. As a fledgeling winger in Alex Ferguson's Manchester United team, he graduated from his indulgent stepovers to bulging nets with straightforward intensity, but always with a disregard for limitations. His former teammate Louis Saha had once shared with **TOI** how Red Devil dictators like Ryan Giggs and Roy Keane all wanted wingers to defend in a certain way. "Cristiano was a different animal. He had that kind of balance of respecting the structure but he knew if he played to his full potential, it would benefit the team. This mentality helped him maintain his improvement. That's the kind of selfishness a striker needs." So, no apologetic hand gestures there. Then and now.

The man from Madeira craves to fill Portugal's cup to the brim, with one last shot. His greatest moment still remains that extraordinary Euro final night at Stade de France in 2016, when hobbling along the touchline, the animated cheerleader, outscreaming coach Fernando Santos, rallied his players to glory against the hosts. His gravity-defying goal in the semis would come a close second.

Messi, satiated after grabbing World Cup permanence, returns to the biggest stage at his current residence now. For Argentina, Diego Maradona was always God, and Messi finally became the messiah.

Often derided for his tragic flaws in national colours, Messi, if you remember, burdened by the 'dependencia', Maracana's 2014 WC missed opportunity and continental disappointments, hastily announced his retirement in 2016, following a skied penalty against Chile in the Copa America Centenario final, a mere fortnight before Cristiano's Euro salvation. "I tried so hard to be champion with Argentina. I couldn't do it," Messi moaned. "No te vayas (Don't go)" was the emotional national outpouring.

Football can be life, it can be death. The comforting bit is that football can be rebirth too. Leo's poetry had always stemmed from joy, forged in the heart of Barcelona's La Masia. With blue-and-white love reciprocated, he was the carefree boy from Rosario again.

Come Maracana 2021, it was the new Messi exorcising the ghosts of the past. It was also the rough Messi, standing like a streetfighter with his band of merrymen, lifting the Copa America with a bruising win over Neymar's Brazil.

A year later, Louis van Gaal's Netherlands ignited the angry Messi in a bruising World Cup quarterfinal at the Lusail. The image of the bearded Argentine, cupping his ears in front of the Oranje crowd after scoring the penalty was a click for the ages, while the humiliation of the Dutch was complete with Leo's admonishment of nearly hero Wout Weghorst, "Qué miras, bobo? (What are you looking at, fool?)", a remark that sparked a million memes reminiscent of the ageing Zinedine Zidane's "Coup de Boule" of Materazzi, in the Germany 2006 final.

But the long day wanes. When Messi walked off the Nu Stadium pitch last month, suffering from muscle fatigue, there were fears. His presence on the pitch or the bench is still what Argentina needs. The Miami murmurs may be far from the loud Messi of 2022, but it is his catalogue of assists, his ability to reinvent himself, that may yet have its say. It is also sheer irony that this World Cup final will be played at the MetLife, New Jersey – the scene of his breakdown 10 years before. This time, it could be the perfect bookend.

Still time-travelling with defiance, Ronaldo insists he has not been softened by his Al-Nassr ways. There's another title in the bag with his prolificacy in front of goal, but the Saudi Pro League is at best a pebble among gemstones.

Qatar would have been a sad epitaph, a drooping Ronaldo denied by Morocco in the quarters, drenched in tears of frustration. But fast forward, and there's renewed hope.

Averaging a goal every 75 minutes this World Cup qualifying, he has netted 25 goals in 30 games under Roberto Martinez, his best goals-per-game ratio under a national coach. "The secret of his longevity is his hunger," reveals the Spaniard. "Whatever he wins, the next day he has the same hunger to improve."

But if CR7 stays the central character, will a talented Portugal team steered by Bruno Fernandes respect him a bit too much? The 'supreme being' needs to know when to harness or unleash his spears.

Mere mortals like us can only wait and watch the denouement, as the play stretches into the Sixth Act.

10 Years Of Prohibition: No Cheers For Bihar

NFHS data shows despite ban on booze, Biharis are drinking more. Worse, they're drinking illicit alcohol. Substance abuse is also up, driving up household spend. Even impact on spousal violence is negligible

Alakh N Sharma and Bhim Reddy

As Bihar's alcohol prohibition policy completed ten years in April 2026, recently released fact sheets from NFHS 2023-24 indicate limited success. The survey recorded a 1.1 percentage-point increase in share of men consuming alcohol, compared with previous NFHS round. This raises important questions about the effectiveness of what is Bihar's most ambitious social policy.

Introduced in 2016, prohibition was viewed as Nitish Kumar keeping his electoral promise. The policy sought to cut back household spend on alcohol, and curb domestic violence, based on an assumption that prohibition would eliminate drinking altogether. However, alcohol consumption persists. Institute for Human Development's research reveals a more nuanced and less-than-satisfactory picture, highlighting significant policy and implementation gaps.

Even before the 2016 ban, NFHS data showed a decline in men's alcohol consumption, from 35% in 2005-06 to 29% in 2015-16. However, the proportion of regular drinkers increased from 9% to 14% in the same period.

Govt was criticised for expanding liquor availability, after liberalising alcohol sales in 2007. Three years after prohibition, NFHS 2019-20 recorded a sharp decline in male drinking, from 29% to 17%. The proportion of married women reporting their husbands consumed alcohol also fell from 33% to 23%. Although substantial, this decline fell short of what would be expected under total prohibition.

Moreover, the gains were not fully sustained. A 2022 study by IHD across urban centres in Patna, Darbhanga, Nawada and Buxar – interviewing around 600 married women about husbands' drinking behaviour, before and after the ban – revealed that barely 11% of the women, whose husbands drank before prohibition, said their men had stopped drinking altogether. Conversely, 8% of women whose husbands had previously abstained, reported they had begun drinking after the ban.

A more realistic measure is change in drinking frequency. Reports of husbands drinking "almost daily" declined significantly. Overall, 29% reported substantial reduction in drinking, another 29% found marginal decline, a high 37% said 'no change', and 4% reported increased consumption.

One of prohibition's objectives was to reduce alcohol-related expenditure among poorer households. Yet NFHS 2019-20 found that 23% of men in lower-income groups continued to consume alcohol. IHD research further revealed that many were spending three to four times more on illicit liquor than they had previously spent on legal alcohol.

Evidence also suggests a shift towards alternative intoxicants. Per NSS, the combined share of expenditure on intoxicants, tobacco, and paan in rural Bihar, nearly doubled from 1.5% of monthly household spend in 2011-12, to 3% in 2023-24, despite known underreporting.

Since alcohol consumption often complements tobacco and other substances, increased spending on these products points to substitution rather than abstinence. Growing substance abuse among individuals with alcohol dependence, including use of drugs, cough syrups, and other intoxicants was also documented in IHD's study. NFHS 2019-20 reported that 17% of Bihar's men consumed alcohol other than toddy, despite prohibition. The state has witnessed cases of organ damage and deaths linked to spurious liquor – common tragedies when alcohol becomes scarce or unaffordable.

Prohibition may have generated unintended public health consequences through proliferation of low-quality alcohol and alternative substance abuse.

On spousal violence, NFHS data show that the share of married women experiencing such violence declined from 41% in 2005-06 to 35% in 2015-16, before the ban. After prohibition, this declined to 34% in 2019-20. The decline following prohibition was relatively modest.

IHD's study found that around 40% of women in both groups – those with 'drinking husbands' and those with 'non-drinking husbands' – reported lower levels of spousal violence. So, lower domestic violence cannot be attributed solely to alcohol prohibition. Broader social changes, rising women's collectives, increased public awareness may also have contributed.

Bihar continues to report among the country's highest levels of spousal violence, underscoring the need to address deeper structural causes beyond alcohol consumption, even though drinking remains a recognised risk factor.

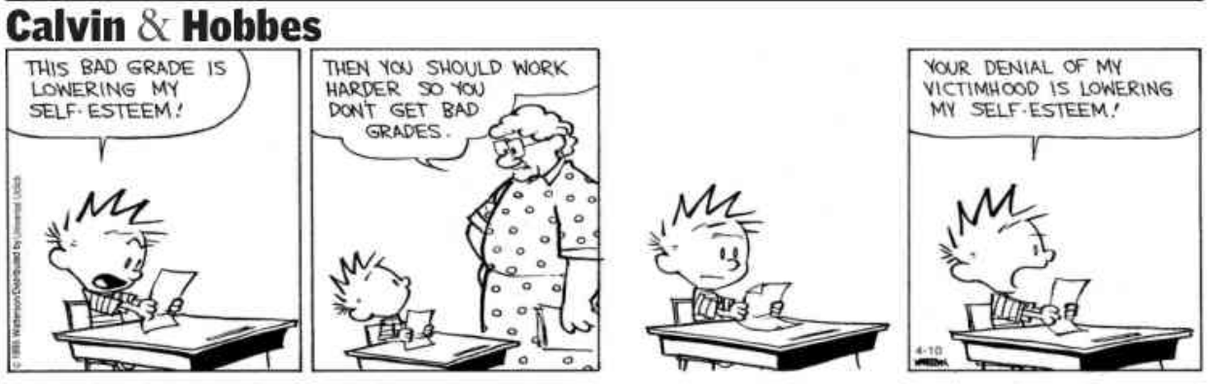
Persistence of illegal drinking presents a major policy challenge. Bihar incurs substantial fiscal costs through lost excise revenue and expenses associated with enforcing prohibition, estimated at roughly ₹20k cr to ₹25k cr annually. The state's modest reduction in alcohol consumption has come at considerable economic, social and public health costs, calling for a policy reassessment.

Rather than choosing between complete prohibition and unrestricted availability, Bihar could pursue alcohol-harm reduction through voluntary moderation and complementary policy measures. Restricting availability through fewer outlets, limited operating hours, stricter enforcement against underage drinking and drink-driving, appropriate pricing and taxation policies, tighter regulation of alcohol marketing and measures such as single-serve bottles to encourage moderation can help.

Bihar's experience demonstrates that durable improvements in public health and social welfare require a balanced, evidence-based approach, rather than reliance on prohibition.

Sharma is director, and Reddy, senior fellow, at Institute for Human Development. Views are personal

Calvin & Hobbes



Sacred*space*

There is something infantile in the presumption that somebody else has a responsibility to give your life meaning and point… The truly adult view, by contrast, is that our life is as meaningful, as full and as wonderful as we choose to make it.

Richard Dawkins, The God Delusion

Song Of The Divine: The Universe Is Still Singing

Partha Sinha

The world keeps remembering Krishn at the loudest moment of his life. It remembers him on the battlefield of Kurukshetra, standing between two armies, speaking words that have echoed across centuries. It remembers the cosmic vision that overwhelmed Arjun. It remembers the line Oppenheimer reached for as the first atomic cloud rose over New Mexico: *Now I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds.*

But Krishn was many things before he became the voice heard above the drums of war. Before the battlefield, there was a flute. Before duty, there was delight. Before philosophy, there was play.

There was a boy running barefoot through Vrindavan, stealing butter from earthen pots, returning home with a face innocent enough to challenge any accusation. There was laughter floating over the Yamuna at dusk. There was music wandering through mango groves. There was a universe that seemed less interested in power than in wonder.

Somewhere along the way, we chose to remember the counsellor and forgot the child. We live in a civilisation fascinated by consequence. We measure, calculate, optimise and predict. We reward seriousness and trust those who explain outcomes. Mystery has become an inconvenience. Yet the oldest wisdom traditions kept whispering a different possibility.

Nada Brahmn, they said. The world is sound. Not stone. Not machinery. Not conquest. Sound.

Modern physics, in its own strange and beautiful way, circles the same intuition. At the deepest levels of reality, matter dissolves into vibration, rhythm and pattern. A melody arrives, lingers, and disappears, leaving us somehow altered. The universe appears less like a monument and more like music. Not a structure to be overcome, but a song to which we belong.

THE SPEAKING TREE

Perhaps that is why Krishn arrives carrying a flute. A flute is an unusual instrument. It produces music only because it is hollow. The note emerges from emptiness. The Divine enters through space, openness. The ego fills. The flute yields.

When Krishn steals butter, he is not committing theft so much as rescuing life from excessive seriousness. Butter is milk transformed by patience and care. Krishn steals it with laughter, as if to remind us that joy is older than ownership. That existence carries a mischievous streak. That creation smiles more often than we think.

The sacred, in these stories, is not stern. It sparkles. And even Krishn of Gita is not the Krishn many remember. Before the war, he went as a messenger of peace. He asked for restraint. He asked for five villages. Only when every door had been shut did he speak of battle. Gita was never the first chapter. It was the last.

A civilisation that remembers only Kurukshetra eventually sees battle everywhere. A civilisation that remembers Vrindavan remembers that existence is not merely a problem to be solved but a mystery to be inhabited.

So perhaps the image worth carrying today is not the cosmic destroyer, nor even the philosopher on the chariot. Perhaps it is the boy beneath a tree at twilight, flute in hand, smiling at a world that has become far too certain of itself. For beneath all the noise of history, ambition and anxiety, victory and defeat, the universe may still be doing what it has always done. It may still be singing.

TIMES BUSINESS

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Gen Z investors top switching propensity in weak mkts

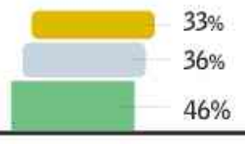
India's mutual fund investors are increasingly relying on external trust signals. These patterns indicate that while access to investing has scaled, confidence, comprehension, and decision-making maturity remain largely uneven

Source: Eminence Reputation Drivers Shaping Investor Trust in Mutual Funds 2026

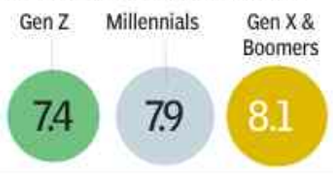
How investors primarily invest (By age group)

	Gen Z	Millennials	Gen X & Boomers
Digital Platforms	75	52	31
Adviser	18	14	42
AMC Direct	17	33	34
Bank	14	21	24

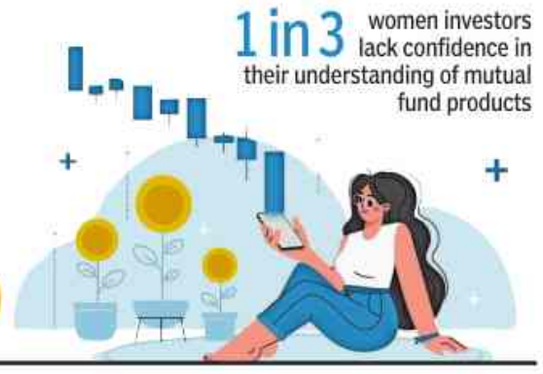
Switching propensity on negative news



Mutual Fund industry trust



1 in 3 women investors lack confidence in their understanding of mutual fund products



Google traffic hit after fire at Delhi centre

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: A fire at a third-party data centre in Delhi disrupted parts of Google Cloud's network infrastructure, affecting traffic in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and nearby regions. Google said some users could experience slower connections, potentially affecting websites, applications and enterprise systems that rely on Google Cloud services.

According to Google Cloud's Service Health page, the incident began around 11:52 pm IST on June 9. The fire prompted an emergency shutdown of networking equipment at the Delhi facility, reducing local network capacity.

Google said it rerouted a significant portion of traffic away from the affected facility to minimise the impact. However, the shift increased the load on alternate network paths, resulting in continued performance degradation for some users in major Indian cities. Google said there is currently no workaround for customers and that its engineers are implementing additional traffic-management measures to restore normal service levels.

Workfabric helps Cognizant unlock $200mn in new business

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Bengaluru: Cognizant's partnership with Rohan Murty-led AI startup Workfabric AI has already generated an incremental sales pipeline of about $200 million, with the company expecting that figure to reach $1 billion by the end of the year.

Speaking at Cognizant's AI Forum, CEO Ravi Kumar said the opportunity emerged from analysing client conversations and unlocking 'tribal knowledge' embedded across the organisation and turning it into actionable business insights. The context-engineering platform developed by Workfabric taps into Cognizant's vast repository of organisational knowledge spanning emails, meetings, chats, documents and enterprise systems. The platform helps employees surface expertise, identify business opportunities and create customer-facing insights.

"We roughly have $200 million of pipeline generated incrementally through this effort. By the end of the year, we think this is going to be a $1 billion pipeline just by listening to conversations with our clients and extracting tribal knowledge to create insights," Kumar said. Beyond sales, Cognizant is deploying the platform internally to improve talent allocation. Instead of relying solely on resumes and skills databases, managers can query the system to identify employees working on similar projects and find the best candidates for new assignments.

Kumar said Cognizant has spent the past two years helping clients achieve "more for less", enabling them to clear technology backlogs at lower cost and greater speed. The effort has also driven consolidation-led engagements, with the company signing multiple deals worth more than $100 million each quarter while boosting software spending.

Equity fund data for May shows signs of slowdown

Net Inflows Dived To Nearly ₹23K Cr, Lowest In Over A Year

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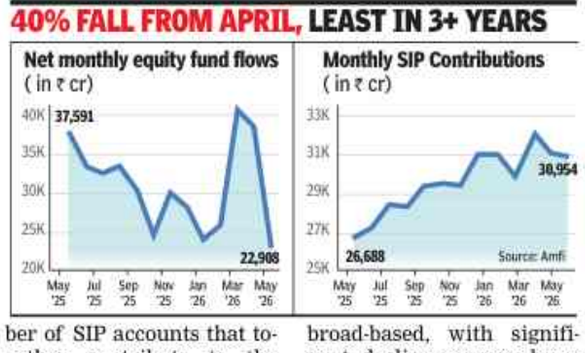
40% FALL FROM APRIL, LEAST IN 3+ YEARS



Mumbai: After months of resilience, there are early signs of investing fatigue among retail mutual fund investors. In May, as the stock market showed extreme volatility—thanks to the war in West Asia—net inflows into equity funds fell to the lowest level in more than a year at, Rs 22,908 crore. On a month-on-month basis, this was a 40% drop, from Rs 38,440 crore recorded in April. A drop of such magnitude was not seen for more than three years, data released by industry trade body AMFI showed.

During the month, gross flows through the systematic investment plans (SIPs) also dipped, but only marginally to Rs 30,954 crore from Rs 31,115 crore in April and Rs 32,087 crore in March. The number of contributing SIP accounts, meaning the number of SIP accounts that together contribute to the gross monthly flows, also showed a marginal dip by about 84,000 to slightly above 9.64 crore.

According to Shashwat Singh, Fundamental Analyst, Bajaj Broking, May 2026 witnessed a distinct cooling in MF fund investment activity, with actively managed equity fund inflows slumping by about 40% on a monthly basis. "This fall was broad-based, with significant declines across large cap, midcap, and small cap segments, while flexi cap and sectoral thematic funds experienced even sharper contractions compared to April 2026," Singh wrote in a note.

In May, net inflows into flexi cap funds dipped to Rs 5,176 crore from Rs 10,148 crore in April, while in sectoral/thematic funds, net inflows were at Rs 648 crore (against Rs 1,949 crore in April).

According to Aditya Agarwal, co-founder, Wealthyin, a wealth management platform for MF distributors, as markets turned extremely volatile in May, investors who typically deploy money through periodic lump-sum investments, may have paused fresh allocations. "Seasoned investors also seem to be in wait-and-watch mode, possibly looking for a better entry point or a sharper correction before deploying surplus cash," Agarwal said.

Another factor behind the slowdown could be SIP pauses, which is also reflected in the reduction in overall SIP flows in May compared to April, Agarwal said. "At this stage, it looks more like investors are pausing or delaying fresh equity allocations rather than making a clear move away from equities."

'Rajesh Exports will not contest Sebi order'

Chairman Rajesh Mehta Says Co Cooperating In ₹15.2 Lakh Crore Inflated-Revenue Probe

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'WE HAVE NOT BEEN BARRED BY SEBI'

> We do not see this as a matter that requires contesting. We are cooperating fully with Sebi and are submitting all documents and information requested by the regulator. To date, we have already responded to some 2-3 queries. Importantly, there has been no adverse regulatory action against the company. We have not been barred from conducting business, nor has any penalty been imposed. We remain committed to complying with all regulatory requirements and will continue to engage constructively with Sebi throughout the process
>
> **Rajesh Mehta** | CHAIRMAN, RAJESH EXPORTS

Bengaluru: Rajesh Exports chairman Rajesh Mehta, who is under Sebi's scanner over allegations that the company inflated its revenues by Rs 15.2 lakh crore between FY21 and FY25, said he does not intend to challenge the regulator's interim order and is fully cooperating with the investigation.

"We do not see this as a matter that requires contesting. We are cooperating fully with Sebi and are submitting all documents and information requested by the regulator. To date, we have already responded to some 2-3 queries," Mehta told **TOI**.

"Importantly, there has been no adverse regulatory action against the company. The company has not been barred from conducting business, nor has any penalty been imposed. We remain committed to complying with all regulatory requirements and will continue to engage constructively with Sebi throughout the process," he said.

TOI had earlier reported that Sebi, in its 109-page interim order, alleged that Rajesh Exports inflated its revenues between FY21 and FY25. According to the regulator, the company reported consolidated aggregate revenue of Rs 15.2 lakh crore during the five-year period while misrepresenting 99.8% of its total consolidated revenue. Mehta said the company and its executives are fully cooperating with the investigation and forensic auditors appointed in the matter. He added that Rajesh Exports has already submitted between 40,000 and 50,000 documents and more than 300 GB of data to Sebi as part of the probe.

"Sebi has not made any allegations. We are responding to their observations. Once we have submitted all the documents, the matter will be clarified shortly," he said. In a recent stock exchange filing, Rajesh Exports reiterated that Sebi's order is only an interim order that raises suspicions on certain aspects of the company's operations and does not contain any conclusive adverse findings.

The company also maintained that neither Rajesh Exports nor any of its personnel were involved in any wrongdoing or misrepresentation.

Responding to Sebi's observations on its reported revenues, the company said the regulator had misunderstood the nature of its business. It argued that a substantial portion of the consolidated revenue was generated by its Swiss subsidiary, Valcambi, which refines and sells gold bullion to major banks, central banks and large bullion market participants globally.

For FY26, the group's consolidated revenue stood at Rs 7.8 lakh crore, while standalone revenue at Rajesh Exports was about Rs 9,200 crore. Mehta said the standalone revenue reflects the company's India operations, while bulk of the consolidated revenue is contributed by Valcambi.

After RBI measures, banks offer up to 7% on $ deposits

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Banks have begun passing on benefits from Reserve Bank of India's free hedging window to non-resident customers, pushing up Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) deposit rates and, in the process, reopening a tidy arbitrage between offshore borrowing costs and onshore returns.

The sharpest moves are visible among smaller lenders. Yes Bank has lifted rates by as much as 335 basis points, offering up to 7.1% on five-year dollar deposits. AU Small Finance Bank is quoting 7.1% for three-to-four-year tenures, while Karur Vysya Bank is at 7% for three-to-five-year deposits. Larger peers have moved more cautiously: HDFC Bank is offering about 6%, and Bank of Baroda around 5% for one-to-two-year money. Punjab National Bank has revised its FCNR (B) rates to as much as 6.1%, aligning with the central bank's push to draw in foreign currency. The rupee gained nearly seven paise on Wednesday despite uncertainty taking a toll on equity markets. The new deposit window has opened up at a time when banks are seeing a rise in funding costs which in turn has pushed up their marginal cost of lending rates. Bankers point out that at current rates the return on dollar deposits are close to what NRIs were getting in rupee denominated deposits. The scheme, though aimed at NRIs, has widened the funding playbook.

RBI allows banks to lend to REITS

Mumbai: RBI has opened the door for banks to fund Real Estate Investment Trusts and Infra investment trusts, but only within tight guardrails. Final rules retain caps on exposure, asset-quality filters and repayment discipline. Overseas branches may join REIT financing via syndication, though with a 20% participation cap and a stiff 150% risk weight; the earlier insistence on an insolvency framework has been broadened to an "effective recovery" test abroad. TNN

Meta taps RIL for AI data centre capacity

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New Delhi: Meta has signed its first artificial intelligence data centre deal in India, partnering with Reliance Industries on a 168-megawatt facility in Jamnagar, Gujarat, as technology companies are racing to secure the computing infrastructure needed to power AI applications.

The agreement deepens a relationship that began with Meta's $5.7 billion investment in Jio Platforms in 2020 and reflects growing interest among global technology firms in India's emerging AI infrastructure ecosystem.

Under the partnership, Meta will lease capacity at Reliance's upcoming AI-enabled data centre, which is expected to become operational within two years. Reliance will be responsible for the design, construction, connectivity and day-to-day operations of the facility, while Meta will bear the cost of energy and water required for its workloads.

Reliance said the facility will run on renewable energy and use desalinated seawater for cooling, part of a broader effort to address the significant power and water requirements associated with AI computing. The company added that the site can be expanded over time to support Meta's growing global AI infrastructure needs.

The deal comes at a time when technology companies race to secure data centre capacity for AI training and inference workloads. India has increasingly emerged as an attractive destination for such investments, supported by govt incentives.

According to govt data, India's installed data centre capacity has grown from around 375 megawatts in 2020 to about 1.5 gigawatts in 2025.

Tata Consumer tops ₹20k crore in annual revenue, raises target

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Tata Consumer Products, which began as a tea joint venture with British firm Finlay, has crossed Rs 20,000 crore in annual revenues, marking what chairman **N Chandrasekaran** called the completion of its transformation into a multi-category consumer goods group.

The company has built its newer "growth" businesses — packaged foods, pantry staples and ready-to-drink beverages — through a mix of organic expansion and acquisitions, and they now account for more than 30% of its India portfolio. Chandrasekaran told shareholders he expects recent acquisitions — Capital Foods, Soulfull and Organic India — to grow at 25% a year. The three operate at gross margins of 48%, compared with 35-36% for the rest of the portfolio.

The company launched around 80 products in FY26. Innovation accounts for 4.5% of sales, against a target of 5%. R&D spending remains modest, around Rs 70 crore, or less than 0.5% of revenues, though Chandrasekaran said investment would increase. Capital expenditure typically runs at 2.4-2.5% of turnover, and combined with R&D amounts to around 3% of revenues. Capex will rise to Rs 700 crore in FY27, driven by a new tea extraction unit.

The chairman said Tata Consumer would continue to acquire to fill portfolio gaps and that margins would remain a focus.

Tata Starbucks, its joint venture (JV) with the American coffee chain, turned EBIT and EBITDA positive in FY26 and now operates 502 stores in India. Chandrasekaran said the JV plans to add 50 to 100 stores a year, and that he and his Starbucks partner believed the business could eventually scale to 8,000 stores in India.

Accenture splits salary hikes into base pay and lump sum

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Bengaluru: Accenture has revised the payout structure for salary increases in its June compensation cycle, impacting its global workforce of more than 7.8 lakh employees, including about 3.5 lakh in India. Under the new approach, employees will receive 50% of their approved salary increase as a one-time lump-sum payment in June, while the remaining 50% will be added to their base pay.

The move has drawn mixed reactions from employees, some of whom said there was limited clarity on whether the arrangement would be a one-time measure and how the lump-sum component would be taxed. However, people familiar with the matter said the change is unrelated to the labour code provisions.

According to an internal memo reviewed by TOI, the company said the revised structure aims to provide employees with more immediate cash while helping manage costs.

"June is our primary cycle for promotions and base pay increases. Last year, we gave limited stay-at-level increases, and this year we are taking a different approach. We are both significantly increasing the number of people who receive them and delivering the increase in two parts: half as a base pay increase and half as a one-time lump sum paid in June," the company said in the memo. The company added that this approach allows it to provide employees with immediate cash—which many value—while extending base pay increases to a larger number of employees.

In the memo, Accenture clarified that promotion-related salary increases will continue to be delivered entirely through base pay and that the lump-sum payments are separate from annual bonuses awarded during the December compensation cycle.

Talent leads will continue to make compensation decisions based on employees' skills, performance, impact and behaviours. The memo illustrated the structure with an example: if an employee is approved for a 3% salary increase, 1.5% will be reflected in base pay, while the remaining 1.5% will be paid as a one-time lump sum.

Higher ethanol blending to hit mileage: Experts

▶ Continued from page 1

But there are concerns about fast-tracking the process, especially given the number of pre-2025 vehicles on roads.

Auto industry executives and experts said that since most existing petrol vehicles are not fully material- and fuel-compliant even with E20 fuel, any mandatory increase in ethanol blending would not only reduce mileage but also raise maintenance costs for such vehicles, impacting a large section of vehicle owners.

The industry, however, is ready to roll out flex fuel vehicles, with Maruti Suzuki and Hero MotoCorp hitting the road and others readying their launch plans. The auto industry has pitched for calibrating an increase in blending, a politically attractive proposition in states where there is high cane production. Besides, the powerful sugar lobby is also pitching for it.

According to Niti Aayog report of 2021 on the E20 roadmap, vehicles designed for E10 and calibrated for E20 are likely to experience a 1-2% reduction in fuel efficiency, although users claim that the actual drop in mileage is higher. So, vehicles that were manufactured before March 2023 would experience more mileage loss in case higher ethanol blending becomes mandatory.

Officials involved in preparing the report said that any phased move beyond the mandatory 20% ethanol blending in petrol would require upgrades in vehicle technology. "In such a situation, it would be better to promote the adoption of flex-fuel vehicles, which can run on both E20 and higher ethanol blends, rather than introducing multiple grades of mandatory blending. Otherwise, vehicle engines would need to be modified to accommodate different grades of blended fuel," said an expert.

Experts also said that the best option before govt is to provide separate dispensers for E20 and higher-blend petrol at fuel stations, giving vehicle owners the freedom to choose the fuel best suited to their vehicles. They added that govt has partially addressed concerns over prices of E85 fuel by fixing it at Rs 82.12 per litre in Delhi.

ADIA arm to sell 2.3% stake in Lenskart

Mumbai: Platinum Jasmine A 2018 Trust, an investment arm of Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA), one of the world's largest sovereign wealth funds, is selling up to 4 crore shares of Lenskart Solutions, translating to about 2.3% of the company, at a floor price of Rs 486 per share. At the offer price, the ADIA group arm is set to get about Rs 1,944 crore (about $204 million) from this stake sale. IIFL Capital Services is the broker for this block deal that is expected to be closed on Thursday. TNN

In growth push, Zee plans to raise ₹2.3k crore

Mumbai: Zee Entertainment Enterprises is seeking to raise Rs 2,300 crore for strategic and business initiatives, nearly a year after shareholders blocked a similar attempt by the broadcaster's promoter group to increase its stake.

The company said its board would deliberate further on funding options, without specifying the instrument or timeline. The move comes as Zee has signed up more than a dozen advertisersfor its coverage of the FIFA World Cup 2026. TNN

'India ranks 2nd in WC content consumption'

▶ Continued from page 1

For television makers such as LG, the enthusiasm has already translated into a spurt in sales for large screen TV sets. And, there is indicative data suggesting that Indians may be planning to binge on the matches despite the odd time schedule. Data tracked by performance advertising platform Taboola showed that India ranks as the second-most engaged market globally after the US for World Cup related content consumption, generating 9.7 million page-views over the past 90 days across the open web.

Ad splurge

Big companies are putting in money in sponsorship — on Wednesday, official India broadcaster Z said that it has so far signed more than 12 brands including Mahindra, Diageo, Apple, Pernod Ricard and Mondelez with more companies expected to jump on the football bandwagon in the coming days.

Auto, FMCG, BFSI, beverages, technology and lifestyle segments are the top spenders. Z is offering advertisers a complete package covering linear, digital, CTV, social and on-ground integrations. The matches will be aired on its sports channels Unite8 and OTT platform Zee5. Vinita Pachisia, EVP, investments at Amplifi, a unit of Dentsu said that Z is seeking anywhere between Rs 10-20 crore for the sponsorship package and going ahead is expected to start selling spot inventory. "The challenge for brands has been the fact that Z acquired the property very late. Deal closures are hence taking time but we are seeing a lot of inquiries. Some brands are likely to come in later during the event," said Pachisia, adding that the late-night timings could weigh on viewership during the weekdays. In football, inventory selling is not as simple. Unlike cricket where every over change is an opportunity to put in an ad, football has no interruptions for 45 minutes each half, said Sandeep Goyal, chairman at Rediffusion.

Sponsors and retailers cash in as football frenzy drives marketing and electronics demand

Brand Play

AB InBev, which owns beer brand Budweiser, will set up an in-store experience within liquor retail spaces around end-June, while also hosting match screenings across key bars in major metros, largely during semi-finals and finals when viewership spikes. McDonald's India-North and East said it will launch Fifa values meals starting Rs 209 which will come with football collectibles. Hisense, which is the official (global) sponsor, has introduced limited period offers for consumers buying Hisense and Toshiba TV sets.

"Based on the momentum we are witnessing, we anticipate a 15-20% increase in demand for larger-screen premium televisions during this period," said Pankaj Rana, CEO at Hisense India.

TIMES GLOBAL

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2026

IF SOCIETY FITS YOU COMFORTABLY ENOUGH, YOU CALL IT FREEDOM
— ROBERT FROST

NATALIE PORTMAN OPPOSES CULTURAL BOYCOTT OF ISRAELI DIRECTOR NADAV LAPID: 'WHATEVER CRIMES STATE MAY COMMIT, NO ONE CAN BE REDUCED TO A PASSPORT'

EMILIA CLARKE SAYS SHE WOULD LOVE TO RETURN TO BROADWAY: 'I HAVE THIS DREAM ABOUT DOING 1966 MUSICAL SWEET CHARITY'

From ceasefire to countdown: Trump says Iran's time is up

US Hits Iran After Helicopter Crash. Tehran Fires On Bahrain, Kuwait, Jordan

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: US President Trump warned on Wednesday that Iran would "have to pay the price" for taking too long to negotiate a deal, underscoring his growing impatience with a diplomatic process that he himself has repeatedly said would produce quick results.

"Iran is all talk and no action. They've taken too long to negotiate a deal that would have been great for them, now they will have to pay the price!!!" Trump wrote on social media after American forces resumed air attacks on Iran in retaliation for Tehran bringing down a US Apache helicopter. The two American pilots were rescued, but the episode prompted swift military retaliation.

Later, he told reporters, "We're going to hit them again hard today." He wouldn't say if he planned to follow through on threats he made earlier in the war to attack bridges and utility plants in Iran. He urged Iran to sign a deal with the US. "We were really close to a deal but they keep tapping us along," Trump said.

According to US Central Command, American forces carried out what they described as "self-defence strikes" targeting Iranian air-defence systems, ground-control stations and surveillance radar facilities near the strategic waterway. The mission is a "proportional response to unjustified Iranian aggression," it added. Iran, in turn, launched missile and drone attacks aimed at US military installations in Bahrain, Kuwait and Jordan, most of which were intercepted, according to initial reports. The tit-for-tat attacks set back a prospective deal that Trump has repeatedly said is imminent even as global energy supplies continue to be stressed.

Instead, Trump returned to his customary trolling, declaring, "Iran's Military is a complete and total mess. Much of it, like their Navy and Air Force, doesn't even exist anymore — They have been completely defeated. Iran is all talk and no action. The Bully of the Middle East is DEAD!!!" In another post, he defended the administration's strategy, saying: "The Fake News Media refuses to report how EFFECTIVE the U.S. Naval BLOCKADE is, the most successful Blockade in the history of Naval Warfare. NOTHING GETS THROUGH unless we want it to. IT IS A STEEL WALL!" He added that Iran was "doing ZERO business, not paying their military, or any of their bills, and quickly becoming a FAILED NATION!"

Trump's impatience with Tehran — whose defiance belies the status of a failed nation — reflects a broader feature of the MAGA supremo's approach to international negotiations. Unlike traditional diplomatic processes, he has repeatedly projected confidence that sweeping agreements can be concluded as quickly as a real estate deal.

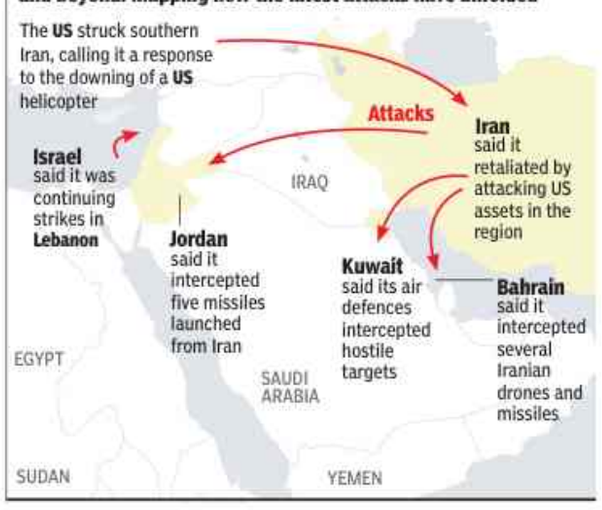
Even as Trump issued new threats, diplomatic channels remained active. Reuters reported that Qatari negotiators had travelled to Tehran after consultations with US officials in an attempt to salvage an agreement. Pakistan now appears to be less central to the current phase of diplomacy than it was a few weeks ago with Qatar taking the lead.

A new complication is the scope of American retaliation, which reportedly targeted water supply plants in Iran on Tuesday. Reports that the US is striking civilian infrastructure such as power plants, bridges or water-related facilities – which Trump had threatened before – have raised alarm among international legal experts. Under international humanitarian law, intentionally attacking objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population — including drinking water installations — may constitute a war crime unless they are being used for military purposes and the principles of distinction and proportionality are strictly observed.

For now, Washington insists that military pressure and diplomacy can proceed simultaneously. Yet the latest exchange of fire illustrates the contradiction at the heart of Trump's Iran strategy: demanding rapid concessions from an adversary shaped by decades of hostility, while escalating military and economic pressure that may make compromise impossible. Whether Tehran returns to the negotiating table or whether the region slides toward a wider conflict may depend on whether both sides can overcome the one commodity that is in even shorter supply than energy: trust.

WEST ASIA: A REGION IN CROSSHAIRS

The US-Iran conflict has drawn in strategic sites across the Gulf and beyond. Mapping how the latest attacks have unfolded



Anti-immigrant violence in Belfast after knife attack

Belfast: The family of a man who lost an eye in a knife attack appealed for calm on Wednesday after the incident triggered a wave of anti-immigrant violence in Belfast overnight, with masked men burning families out of their homes and torching vehicles. The appeal came as a Sudanese man appeared in court charged with attempted murder and as UK PM Keir Starmer and politicians in Northern Ireland condemned the violence by "masked thugs" that had targeted ethnic minorities.

Hundreds of protesters, many with their faces covered, had attacked police and burned vehicles across Northern Ireland late on Tuesday after a video of the knife attack went viral.

"We want to make it absolutely clear that overnight unrest is not welcome, and peaceful protest is the only way forward," the family of the victim, Stephen Ogilvie, said in a statement. "We have many migrants who make a deeply valuable contribution to our country... We do not want this terrible tragedy to be used to divide people or fuel hostility," it said. Speaking in parliament in London, Starmer said the attack raised serious questions but that "driving people out of their homes is not... the right way to respond", adding that all those involved in violence would face "the full force of the law". The suspect in the attack in north Belfast, a 30-year-old Sudanese national named as Hadi Alodid, appeared in court on Wednesday where he was remanded in custody.

Ogilvie, who is in his 40s, suffered significant injuries to his face and back, the court heard. Videos of the attack had circulated online all day on Tuesday, sparking calls on social media for violent protest.

Police had to help one family escape from a burning house. Several cars and a bus were set on fire and reduced to shells. Local politicians and a pastor said many of those who were targeted were Black. Local resident Jamie Corry, 33, said he could only watch on as his house went up in flames. "I was actually standing right there watching my whole house just go up, slowly but surely," he told Reuters.

"I told them and all, when they were lighting a car up on fire, that's my property, that's my property... and they still didn't care." Northern Ireland's First Minister Michelle O'Neill described the violence as "nothing less than disgusting cowardice". The attack, which is currently not being treated as terrorism, comes at a time of heightened tensions in Britain following the murder of a student who was handcuffed by police as he lay dying from stab wounds after his killer, a Sikh man, falsely alleged a racist attack. It also follows repeated protests about immigration, with populist parties saying Britain's asylum policy had allowed dangerous men into the country. REUTERS

undefined/PA

Vehicles set on fire by protesters burn on Lendrick Street in Belfast

Should not have met Epstein, never knew he was engaged in criminal conduct: Gates to lawmakers

Washington: Bill Gates said Wednesday that he made a "grave error in judgment" by ever meeting with Jeffrey Epstein as the Microsoft co-founder faced questions behind closed doors from lawmakers about his relationship with the disgraced financier. In his opening statement, Gates said he "should never have met with Epstein in the first place," but that he "never witnessed nor had any indication that Epstein was engaged in ongoing criminal conduct."

The tech billionaire became the latest powerful figure linked to Epstein to testify before the House Oversight Committee. As Gates arrived at the Capitol, he noted that he was there voluntarily and said he hoped his testimony would be useful. The committee chairman, Republican US Rep. James Comer, formally requested that Gates testify after he appeared multiple times in a trove of documents released by the justice department as part of its Epstein probe.

Gates said he was introduced to Epstein through people involved in his professional and philanthropic work and was drawn in by Epstein's claims that he could help raise billions of dollars for global health initiatives. Gates says he ended the relationship in 2014 after concluding Epstein could not deliver on those promises. Gates added that he never went to Epstein's island or his other infamous properties. "I have never victimised anyone. While he may have sought to foster a personal relationship, I was never interested in that and never reciprocated," Gates said.

In his remarks, which have been released on 'Gates Notes' — Bill Gates' personal website — the Microsoft co-founder said, "In the work I do, reputation is the basis for developing partnerships that save lives. Meeting with Epstein was a grave error in judgement and put this work at risk. His behaviour was antithetical to all my efforts to contribute to a world where everyone has a chance to live a healthy and productive life. If the time I spent with Epstein lent him any credibility, I am deeply sorry. I have learned a significant lesson and am now far more careful about who I engage with even in a limited capacity." AP

'In the work I do, reputation is the basis for developing partnerships that save lives. Meeting with Epstein was a grave error in judgment and put this work at risk'

Bibi to run for re-election, his party says

Tel Aviv: Benjamin Netanyahu will seek re-election this year, his party announced on Wednesday, after US President Trump said he wasn't sure if the Israeli PM would stand again. In a brief statement, Netanyahu's Likud Party said he would run in the election and, God willing, he would win. The election has not yet been formally announced but must be held by Oct. Earlier, ABC News chief Washington correspondent Jonathan Karl posted on X that Trump had told him he did not know if Netanyahu would stand. "I don't know, he's had an amazing career. Does he want to continue?" the journalist quoted Trump as saying. AP

Decision to sell UK temple site under judicial review

Naomi Canton

London: Dozens of Hindus from Peterborough travelled to London for a high court hearing on Wednesday in which a Hindu temple in Peterborough is bringing a judicial review challenging the city council over its decision to sell the site the temple is located on to a local mosque.

In 1986 Peterborough city council had granted Bharat Hindu Samaj (BHS) a lease of unit 6 of the New England Complex for 25 years. From around 2017 the council has been engaged in negotiations with BHS to explore the possibility of a transfer of site to BHS to enable its continued use as a Hindu temple with associated community uses.

On April 6, 2025, BHS made a £1.3m offer (minus social value of services it offers at £504,000 as calculated by the council) to buy the site it had been a tenant on for 40 years. On May 23, 2025, the United Kingdom Islamic Mission (UKIM) which has a mosque in Peterborough, submitted an offer to purchase the property for £1.3-£1.4m. On Feb 10, 2026, the council cabinet announced it would sell the site to UKIM.

In Wednesday's hearing Toby Fisher, representing the BHS, said he was calling for the council decision to be quashed as it was not "lawful". Fisher said: "We are not arguing that a lawful process would have resulted in the BHS getting it, but as a 40-year sitting tenant, the claimant was denied a lawful process and lawful decision, so we seek as a remedy a quashing order."

US blocks Pak & China's bid at UN to blacklist BLA

The US has blocked a joint bid by Pakistan and China at the UN security council to designate the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) and the Majeed Brigade as a terrorist entity. Islamabad and Beijing had in Sept last year submitted their joint bid to the Security Council to blacklist the BLA and the Majeed Brigade under the Council's 1267 Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee.

It is learnt that US, France and UK blocked the bid this month. The US has designated the Balochistan Liberation Army and its alias, the Majeed Brigade, as a foreign terrorist organisation. The state department added the Majeed Brigade as an alias to BLA's previous specially designated global terrorist designation. PTI

Pakistani airstrikes in Af kill 13: Taliban official

Kabul: Pakistan launched new airstrikes on Afghanistan early Wednesday, in a further escalation of months of fighting between the two neighbours. The strikes, which Afghanistan said hit the eastern provinces of Khost, Kunar and Paktika, shattered more than a month of calm between the two sides. Afghan govt spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid said 13 people had been killed — 11 children, one woman and an elderly man — and that 14 other civilians were wounded.

Pakistan said it had carried out strikes, saying it targeted militant hideouts and infrastructure linked to recent attacks inside Pakistan, and that 26 militants were killed. The two sides often give differing casualty figures.

Pakistan's information minister Attaullah Tarar said that "precise and calibrated strikes were carried out along Pakistan-Afghanistan border areas on hideouts and safe havens of masterminds and planners" of attacks carried out by the Pakistani Taliban and insurgents in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region. Tarar said four targets were destroyed: a training centre, a hideout, an ammunition cache and a facility belonging to militant commanders. AP

AFP

Residents clear the debris of a house damaged by a Pak strikes at Shultan district in Kunar

Multiple attackers kill 12 in shooting in S Africa

Johannesburg: A group of armed attackers drove into a poor neighbourhood in South Africa's biggest city, got out of a minivan and opened fire at residents in a late-night attack on Tuesday in Johannesburg that killed 12 people and wounded at least nine, police said on Wednesday.

Police said that there were at least 10 suspected attackers who later fled the scene. Johannesburg has long been the scene of crime gangs vying for control of illegal mining or other activities, though police said the motive of the shooting was still under probe.

Police said the shooters were dropped off at the settlement in a minibus "and moved through the area, opening fire on residents and community members at multiple locations before fleeing the scene". The victims were nine men and three women, according to police.

Police said a search was launched for the suspects and the vehicle but that no arrests had been made. Provincial police commissioner Tommy Mthombeni called the killings "insane, heartless and, to a certain extent, barbaric". He said it was too early to link them to illegal mining gangs as a probe was under way, but police were considering that as a possible motive. He said a recent police operation in the area had confiscated illegal firearms, including assault rifles, and illegal miners were known to operate there.

South Africa has high violent crime rates, with the country recording more than 23,000 killings in the last financial year, according to official crime statistics, an average of more than 60 a day. AP

US: Quick visa interviews at select embassies for $750

Washington: The state department will offer a "premium" expedited service for foreigners seeking business or tourist visas to come to the US that will set applicants back $750 — on top of the initial fee of $185. In a notice to be published in the Federal Register this week, the state department will unveil a pilot programme that will allow visa applicants to pay the $750 to schedule an appointment for an interview within 10 days of the payment at select US embassies and consulates.

The programme will run from July 1 to Dec 31, according to internal documents obtained by AP and a state department official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The move is a potential effort to ease conditions caused by the Trump administration's push to make entering the US more difficult. The administration has cracked down on most forms of migration for foreigners — demanding that bonds of up to $15,000 be paid for visa processing in some, mainly African, countries and requiring years of personal history, including social media accounts, to be vetted. The new requirements have caused delays in visa processing around the world, prompting complaints.

Wait times for visa interviews for citizens of countries that are not part of the Visa Waiver Program can be several months if not longer. But paying the fee for the "optional premium add-on service" does not guarantee that a visa will be issued. The embassies and consulates at which this service will be available are to be announced before the program takes effect on July 1. AP

DAILY PLANET

AP

COUNTDOWN TO JULY 4: The Patrouille de France conducts a flyover above the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbour on Wednesday in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of American independence

WW-I soldier's postcard from home helps unite family after a century

A postcard belonging to a World War I soldier whose body was found with five comrades during an excavation has helped reunite distant descendants more than a century after his death. Dozens of mourners attended a memorial service in western Belgium on Wednesday during which six new white marble headstones were dedicated to the British soldiers whose remains were recently identified through the use of archival research and DNA analysis. The six burials at the Tyne Cot Cemetery included that of Pvt. Thomas Whitaker, who died in the trenches carrying a postcard from Bradford, in north east England, where some of his relations still live. At the ceremony were three members of the Whitaker family. Joe Whitaker, 22, read aloud a poem written in honour of his great-great-uncle: "At peace in foreign hills, he finally drifts away to sleep, his mind on Bradford mills." The soldier's postcard proved to be a crucial piece of evidence that helped British govt researchers establish his identity and ultimately linked Joe's family with another, estranged, branch of the Whitaker family.

Japan lawmakers back plan to ease imperial succession crisis

Japan's legislature endorsed on Wednesday a proposed framework aimed at easing a looming imperial succession crisis, with just one young heir to the throne currently remaining. The imperial household operates under strict rules that allow only male offspring from the male side of the family to ascend to the Chrysanthemum Throne. That means that the household's future hinges on 19-year-old Prince Hisahito, Emperor Naruhito's nephew and the only young man in the family. The proposal would allow women keep their royal status even after marrying someone outside the family, and let the imperial family adopt male distant relatives. "Given the differing opinions, we believe we've managed to produce the best result," lower house speaker Eisuke Mori said.

California dreamin', MAGA screamin': Trump & co see red in Nithya Raman's rise

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: Welcome to LA LA land's latest political plot twist — where an Indian-American democratic socialist crashes the establishment party, a reality TV star cries foul, and MAGA mavericks smell yet another election heist.

Spencer Pratt, the former star of MTV's "The Hills" and the only Republican in the Los Angeles mayoral race, went to bed on primary election night with what looked like a ticket to the Nov runoff: a lead of nearly 40,000 votes over progressive city council member Nithya Raman. Then California started doing what California always does: Counting ballots. Lots of them. Very slowly.

As fresh batches of mail-in votes trickled in over the next several days, Pratt's lead shrank like a Hollywood career after an Oscar fumble. Raman surged past him into second place, setting up an all-Democrat showdown against incumbent mayor Karen Bass in Nov.

Cue MAGA outrage. Trump declared the result 'impossible". Vice President JD Vance said it looked "shady". MAGA influencers flooded social media with charts, graphics and declarations suggesting that the Democrat machine had pulled off another stolen election.

The allegation? That late-counted mail ballots mysteriously favoured Democrats. The reality? It's complicated — but not necessarily sinister.

Bloomberg

Born in India and educated at Harvard and MIT, Raman also worked on urban policy initiatives in Chennai

California is America's undisputed heavyweight champion of counting votes at the speed of continental drift. Every voter receives a mail ballot, and ballots postmarked by Election Day can arrive several days later and still count. Each one must be verified before being added to the tally.

Election experts insist this isn't a bug; it's a feature. It also happens to be a feature that drives Republicans absolutely bananas. The same thing happened in 2022, when Karen Bass herself trailed billionaire Rick Caruso on election night before overtaking him days later.

Still, Pratt supporters, including the MAGA boss, aren't buying it. Adding fuel to the fire are claims circulating in right-wing media that homeless residents in LA's' Skid Row were paid to vote for Bass and Raman. Videos featuring individuals making such allegations spread rapidly online. But so far, there has been one awkward problem for the conspiracy camp: Evidence. No law enforcement agency has announced a probe confirming organised vote-buying. No charges have been filed. No independent verification has emerged to support the claims.

That hasn't stopped MAGA from zeroing in on California's ballot-collection laws, which critics refer to as "ballot harvesting" and supporters call helping people vote. Under state law, voters can authorise someone else to return their completed ballot. MAGA says the system invites abuse. Democrats counter that it boosts participation among elderly, disabled and working-class voters. "This is what democracy looks like," Silicon Valley Congressman Ro Khanna argued.

Lost amid the uproar is perhaps the race's biggest surprise: Nithya Raman's remarkable ascent. Born in India and educated at Harvard and MIT, Raman worked on urban policy initiatives in Chennai before entering Los Angeles politics.

Ironically, Raman is hardly the darling of Democrats. Former vice-president Kamala Harris endorsed Bass, and many mainstream Democrats lined up behind her as Raman's socialist credentials made party moderates nervous. Polls suggest Pratt would likely have lost comfortably to Bass in Nov anyway. Raman, however, leads Bass in some polls. Which means that Los Angeles voters may not have traded one political drama for another. They may have upgraded the script. After all, this is Hollywood.

GOAL RUSH

11 Jun 2026 – 19 Jul 2026

TIMES SPORT | THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU
THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2026

"YOU WANT 11 CAPTAINS ON THE PITCH AND WHEN YOU ARE PLAYING IN A WORLD CUP, YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO CARRY ANYONE. EVERYONE HAS TO BE ON THE BALL AND THE TEAM SPIRIT IS IMPORTANT."

— PAUL GASCOIGNE
EX-ENGLAND MIDFIELDER WANTS TEAM TO IMBIBE SPIRIT OF 1990, WHEN THEY MADE THE SEMIFINAL

WORLD NEEDS FOOTBALL'S HEALING TOUCH

The World Cup Has Shown In The Past That It Can Disentangle Itself From Political Tensions. Can This Super-Sized Tournament Do The Same? Hello American Dream, Meet The Beautiful Game...

Nilesh.Bhattacharya
@timesofindia.com

The football World Cup is finally upon us with its sweet summer sweat. Some will dance to remember, some to forget!

A super-sized tournament — with 48 teams, 104 matches, 16 venues and three host nations — is FIFA's morbidly muscular and mind-blowing experiment, hitting on the idea of capturing a dimension-tilting sporting zeitgeist.

The iconic and rebranded Estadio Azteca will set the ball rolling on Thursday, with co-hosts Mexico taking on South Africa until the spectacle will culminate in the final at New Jersey's 82,500-seat MetLife Stadium on July 19.

But as something gets bigger, it has its own pitfalls and paradoxes. The skyrocketing cost of tickets, issues over hotel affordability, massive logistical challenges and prevailing political tensions are all massive complications.

Back in 2018, when FIFA members voted in favour of awarding the tournament to three nations in North America, Donald Trump was in his first term as president and the decision was hailed as a diplomatic coup given his vehement stand in setting up a border wall along with Mexico. Still, three's a crowd and it has since stirred a deeper introspection into the project's palpable vulnerability and manifold ambiguities.

Yet by an overarching measure, football has a habit of ingeniously disentangling itself from the confusing and the controversial. In a little over five weeks from now, there will be for sure some pure football moments, inherently moving and cathartic — the last dance of Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo, Spain and France's ambitious tilt at hegemony, Germany's bruised ego, England's eternal search for salvation or Africa and Asia's relentless push for recognition as a force to be reckoned with. They are certain to create moments which are designed to pull at our emotional heartstrings and promised to linger.

The path to chasing and realizing the American dream — that lofty pursuit of happiness in the land of opportunity and adventure, that parable of imagination — is there for the taking but it looks constraining and liberating all at once. Whenever the game has been forced into a dangerous tightrope walk, it has bounced back.

When the carnival had arrived in the USA for the first time in 1994, and more than making an etymological alteration to 'soccer', the game was gasping and looking for a breath of fresh air. An Italia '90 — struck by a string of unpunished fouls, boring theatrics and widespread time-wasting via repeated backpasses — was an antithesis to the beautiful game. However, the 1994 edition, the last World Cup with 24 teams, hit us with a new look — a three-point system for wins adopted, offside rule tweaked to give strikers more scoring chances and abolition of that dreadful 'Higuita Rule' preventing goalkeepers from picking up the ball after receiving it from a teammate.

Diego Maradona's expulsion for failing a drug test might have been out of the syllabus, but Brazil somehow restored order in 1994 and brought the Joga Bonito energy back by adding the fourth stars to Canarinho or the famous yellow jersey.

As the game returns to North America after 32 years, it is facing its moment of truth. Nowhere has sports collided with politics so brazenly in World Cup history. The biggest stage has been caught on the wrong foot thanks to Trump administration's controversial immigration policy.

The celebrated Somali referee Omar Artan was denied entry. Iran's team, training in Mexico, will be allowed to enter the US only the day before each of their three matches. Iraq striker Aymen Hussein was questioned for hours on his arrival in Chicago. Members of Senegal and Uzbekistan's football teams were subjected to humiliating security checks. The 'MAGA' World Cup seems to be swimming against the tournament's guiding principles, aesthetic goals and borderless laissez-faire spirit.

Small wonder that the game, just like 1994, is again looking for a healing touch. Can Brazil restore the order once again? In appointing Italian Carlo Ancelotti as the first ever foreign manager, the five-time champions have broken a taboo to rediscover their soul in the world football. Troubled by a nagging calf injury, Neymar is preparing for what is likely to be his last spin on the game's grandest stage and it remains to be seen if his body can still match his imagination.

In another convention-defying move, England have put their fate in the hands of a German, tasked with the challenge of ending their trophy drought which now stretches to 60 years. Thomas Tuchel has proved that England have in him a manager willing to roll the dice as the German has left big names like Phil Foden, Cole Palmer and Trent Alexander-Arnold out of the World Cup squad.

Spain, who have not lost since bagging the Euro 2024 title, and France have emerged as bookmakers' favourites. The prodigious Lamine Yamal is bound to attract the spotlight after enjoying a breakout tournament at Euro 2024. His potential duel with French star Kylian Mbappe, already a World Cup winner, is set to be placed in a larger and more absorbing context as Messi and Ronaldo are riding off into the sunset.

Sport prefers to revel in a certain degree of romanticism and perhaps it lays on us an obligation to view this tournament as another Messi affair. Lionel Scaloni has retained the core with 17 of his 26 members from the 2022 World-conquering side. Can Messi make it a more enduring and magnetic climax of his career, something that even legendary Maradona failed to achieve?

Every World Cup has an individual's story: Cruyff's turn against Sweden, Maradona's magical solo against England, Roberto Baggio's penalty miss against Brazil, Ronaldinho's goal against England or Zinedine Zidane's headbutt against Italy.

The moment has arrived. For over a one month now, the game will search for its meaning.

AFP

THE CUP IS FULL: An aerial view of the Mexico City Stadium (top). Children in Kochi (above, left), fans in the West Bank (above, right) and a Mexican local (below) all await the start of the World Cup

TIME TO ASK APOLLO

SUMMER: BURN?
Unprotected UV exposure can accelerate skin aging by up to 80%.
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For any Health Query Chat with
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THE DOG WHO FOUND THE STOLEN WC TROPHY

BACK PASS

Months before the 1966 World Cup began, the Jules Rimet Trophy disappeared from an exhibition in London. Britain launched a nationwide hunt. The trophy was eventually found not by police but by a dog named Pickles, who discovered it wrapped in newspaper beneath a hedge while out on a walk. Pickles instantly became a national celebrity, appearing on television and receiving rewards. England went on to win the World Cup, but for many Britons, the tournament's first hero had four legs and a wagging tail.

SOMALI REFEREE, DENIED ENTRY TO US, ARRIVES HOME TO HERO'S WELCOME

Mogadishu: A World Cup referee from Somalia who was denied entry to the United States arrived on Wednesday in Somali's capital of Mogadishu, where he was received by a crowd of supporters and officials. Omar Artan was set to be the first referee from Somalia to officiate at a World Cup after making FIFA's final list for the tournament. He is one of Africa's top referees and was named the continent's best male referee in 2025. He returned to a hero's welcome at the airport in Mogadishu.

Reuters

UNLIKELY HERO: Somali referee Omar Abdulkadir Artan gets a warm welcome as he arrives at Mogadishu Airport

SENEGAL EXPLAINS VIRAL AIRPORT SECURITY FOOTAGE

New York: A Senegal's football federation (FSF) moved on Tuesday to explain social media footage showing their squad undergoing security checks on an airport tarmac, after the images prompted accusations of discriminatory treatment.

Videos circulated online showed Senegal players being screened by airport security before travelling from Raleigh, North Carolina to San Antonio, Texas for a warm-up friendly against Saudi Arabia. In response to outrage over the players' treatment, the FSF stressed that all checks were carried out in compliance with "applicable airport security regulations" and were part of an arrangement to expedite travel. The friendly clash ended goalless.

GERMANY FLY IN GROUNDSKEEPER TO MAINTAIN TRAINING PITCH

North Carolina: A Germany have flown in veteran groundskeeper Sebastian Breuning to water and maintain their World Cup training ground at North Carolina's Wake Forest University amid high temperatures, German newspaper Bild said in a report.

Breuning, who has been the German soccer association's (DFB) groundskeeping coordinator since 2022, was seen tending to the heavily watered pitch with local staff after Tuesday's training session amid hot and humid weather. FIFA has for the first time mandated hydration breaks. "Yes, it needs water. That's the problem with these temperatures, for drinking and also on the pitch," Germany's national team director Rudi Voeller told Bild.

Reuters

TALK OF THE TOWN: Netherlands defender Virgil van Dijk is interviewed by a reporter on arrival at Charles B. Wheeler Downtown Airport in Kansas

Hosts Mexico face SA under pressure to deliver in opener

MEXICO VS S AFRICA
Azteca, Mexico City

HEAD TO HEAD (4 games)

Mexico City: Mexico will launch their home World Cup campaign against South Africa on Thursday under pressure to deliver the winning start fans expect at the Estadio Azteca, where the tournament returns for a third time.

The Group A clash marks a return to the World Cup stage for the iconic venue that hosted matches in 1970 and 1986, while also reviving memories of the 2010 tournament opener, when South Africa held Mexico to a 1-1 draw in Johannesburg.

This time, the hosts arrive as clear favourites and know victory could prove crucial to their hopes of finishing top of a group that also includes South Korea and the Czech Republic. Mexico have gone unbeaten in their last eight matches and provided further encouragement for Javier Aguirre's side. The atmosphere is expected to be festive as more than 80,000 fans pack the renovated Azteca, but the occasion will bring its own pressure for the home side.

South Africa, meanwhile, are back at the World Cup for the first time since hosting the tournament in 2010 and coach Hugo Broos believes his largely domestically based squad can surprise more fancied opponents. The Belgian, who faced Mexico in the 1986 World Cup, acknowledged the challenge posed by the opening-day atmosphere but said his players must remain focused.

"It is important that we follow the game plan and don't listen to what is happening in the stands," he said. South Africa's preparations were disrupted by visa issues that delayed the arrival of several members of the travelling party, costing them valuable time to acclimatise to conditions in central Mexico. Yet Broos's side will hope to frustrate the hosts.

For Mexico, anything less than three points would be viewed as an early setback in a tournament they hope will finally deliver a breakthrough on home soil. AFP

Bae doubtful for South Korea

Team's Meeting With Czechia Is Up Next

S KOREA VS CZECHIA
Guadalajara, Mexico City

HEAD TO HEAD (3 games)

Guadalajara: South Korea's Bae Jun-ho is unlikely to feature in his nation's World Cup opener against Czechia in Guadalajara on Thursday as the midfielder continues to recover from an ankle injury in a 5-0 win over Trinidad and Tobago 10 days ago. The Stoke City playmaker missed his nation's 1-0 victory over El Salvador on Thursday and has trained on his own in an increasingly unlikely bid to be ready for South Korea's opening tricky Group A clash against Miroslav Koubek's side.

Bae is one of the youngest players in coach Hong Myung-bo's squad and is expected to add a dash of youthful vigour to a line-up that laboured throughout Asia's preliminaries before securing their berth at an 11th consecutive World Cup.

The Koreans reached the last 16 in 2022, with Hwang Hee-chan scoring a stoppage time winner against Portugal to take his team into the knockout rounds and the Wolverhampton Wanderers forward is keen for a repeat performance at the tournament. The Czechs enter the World Cup riding a wave of confidence after six wins in qualification and friendly matches following a crisis late last year when they lost to the Faroe Islands.

That result marked the low point of a then-stuttering qualifying campaign and led to the appointment of 74-year-old Koubek, who guided the Czechs through the playoffs to their first World Cup appearance since 2006.

The Czechs will earnestly seek to impose their physicality on the South Koreans, potentially looking to two-metre Slavia Prague striker Tomas Chory.

Organisational discipline will feature heavily and is something Koubek believes will need to improve. The Czechs will hope Patrik Schick finds his goal-scoring form while Hoffenheim striker Adam Hlozek offers another experienced option up front.

Koubek will also lean on West Ham midfielder Tomas Soucek and 35-year-old Vladimir Darida. AGENCIES

Our aim is to reach the knockouts: Salah

MOHAMED SALAH FOR EGYPT

116	67	32
appearances	goals	assists

TOI Print Exclusive

In the 48-team FIFA World Cup, Egypt's hopes rest on Mohamed Salah. He enters this tournament as the standard-bearer for African football. Born on 15 June 1992 in Nagrig, Egypt, he plays primarily as a right winger. He is known as the 'Egyptian King'. Excerpts from an interview...

In your second World Cup, how hopeful are you to go beyond the group stage?

To be a part of the best tournament in football is always special! Feelings can never begin to describe it. To represent the country in the greatest tournament inspires you to give your best and make the country proud. Yes, I was a part of the team in 2018 in Russia. But we lost all the matches and went out early. This time, we shall definitely try to perform better and reach the knockouts. That is our first aim.

In Group G, your strongest opponent will be Belgium. You play them in the opening match. Does it add pressure?

Football is all about handling pressure, whether you are playing for the club or country. When you represent your country, it does magnify, especially in a World Cup. Coming to the match against Belgium, since we are in the same group, we have to face them. First or last does not matter. For me, it's good since we have to start against the strongest opponent on paper. We shall be eager to prove ourselves and that too, against the best possible team of the Group.

The other two teams are Iran and New Zealand. Compared to the strength and experience of Belgium, these two should be easier to face, right?

Football has never been played on paper! So, these ideas can only detract you. Our goal is to play at the best of our abilities in the three matches. We are focused on ourselves, our performances only rather than wasting time judging the merits and demerits of our opponents. The ultimate goal is to play well and make our fellow Egyptians back home proud.

Two more goals in this tournament will make you joint highest goalscorer for Egypt along with your coach Hossam Hasan. He has 69 while you have 67...

Well, scoring goals is always important for the team, but more important aspect is how your goals are contributing towards the team's success. Like, I played in two matches in 2018 against Russia and Saudi Arabia. I scored in both matches. But we lost and were out in the first round. It would have been nice to go through even if I did not score.

What about emulating your coach Hossam Hassan?

Again, it would be nice, personally. To achieve something what Hossam Hassan had, or even coming closer to it in itself is great. It says that I have played consistently well for some years to be so close to his numbers. His aura in Egyptian football is unbelievable. Under him, we had qualified for the fourth World Cup in our football history, double the joy. But I am more interested in our performances.

The road will be tougher if Egypt can reach the knockouts...

That is quite natural. World Cup is all about facing strong teams in every stage. Our target is to play well in the three group league matches. Let us do so. We can only think about the later stages when we are among the best 32. There is no point in thinking over who might be our opponents in the knockouts.

Morocco reached the last four in Qatar as the first African country and surprised the football world. Can Egypt emulate your great African rivals?

It was really amazing to see what Morocco had done in 2022. Certainly, it'll be great to reach there. But that's not easy and at this moment, you should not expect it either. Think about only what's in your hand. Take it match by match. Focus on the job you are assigned by your manager and help the team to play better. These are the things we all should do now. PMG

IRAN THREATENS TO STOP GAMES IF UNAUTHORISED FLAGS ARE SHOWN

Tijuana: Iran threatened to halt its matches at the World Cup if unauthorised flags are displayed or slogans targeting the national team are chanted at stadiums, Iranian media reported, citing sports minister Ahmad Donyamali, following criticism of the team's presence at the tournament.

The World Cup begins on Thursday, with Iran opening their Group G campaign against New Zealand in Los Angeles on June 15. They next face Belgium at the same venue on June 21 before taking on Egypt in Seattle on June 26. "We have informed FIFA that if unofficial flags are brought or slogans against the national team are chanted in the stadiums where Iran plays in the World Cup, the team manager will definitely be responsible for stopping the match," Donyamali said on Tuesday, according to Iranian media.

Meanwhile, Iran's football federation announced on Tuesday that the team will fly to Los Angeles the day before their opening group stage match. "In accordance with FIFA's programme, the team delegation will travel to the United States on a charter flight," the Iranian federation's spokesperson Amir Mehdi Alavi said. AGENCIES

AP

CLASSIC CAMEO: Messi, who played only 20 minutes, scored his 117th international goal

Messi returns with a goal

Auburn: Lionel Messi scored within minutes of making his return from an injury scare as Argentina beat Iceland 3-0 in their final World Cup warm-up in Auburn, Alabama on Tuesday.

Messi started on the bench as the eight-time Ballon d'Or winner is eased back to fitness after exiting Inter Miami's 6-4 win over Philadelphia with muscle fatigue on May 24.

He was joined on the sidelines at the start by Julian Alvarez, Enzo Fernandez and Alexis Mac Allister as Lionel Scaloni named an experimental line-up in front of an 88,000 capacity crowd.

Messi allayed fears he may not be ready for the start of the tournament in a supreme 20-minute cameo. Argentina begin their defence of the World Cup against Algeria on June 16.

> **"I was eager to play for a while, since I arrived with this discomfort. Happy, enjoying every moment, and excited as always. I felt great."** —Lionel Messi | ARGENTINA ICON PUTS INJURY FEARS BEHIND IN WIN OVER ICELAND

Iceland could only partially clear a goalmouth scramble inside their box and the ball broke to Valentin Barco to fire into the bottom corner.

Nico Paz failed to make the most of his chance to shine in Messi's absence and wasted a big chance to make it 2-0 before half-time. Fernandez and Mac Allister were introduced among five Argentine changes at the break. Lautaro Martinez was another to make his entrance at half-time and twice hit the post.

The expectant crowd had to wait until the final quarter for Messi to make his appearance. With his first involvement, Messi's brilliant pass played in Martinez, who he chipped the ball wide. Messi made no mistake by slotting in his 117th international goal on his 199th cap.

He was involved again for Argentina's third goal as Messi's pass fed Rodrigo De Paul, who squared for Thiago Almada to tap in. AFP

Argentina players' passport details leaked in shocking security oversight

A security oversight leaked the passport details of every player in the Argentina squad for Tuesday's pre-World Cup warm-up friendly against Iceland, including Lionel Messi, media reports said. The passport numbers, listed on the official team sheet, should have been blurred before being released to the media and the public. But in Alabama's Jordan-Hare Stadium, they were circulated without redaction. AGENCIES

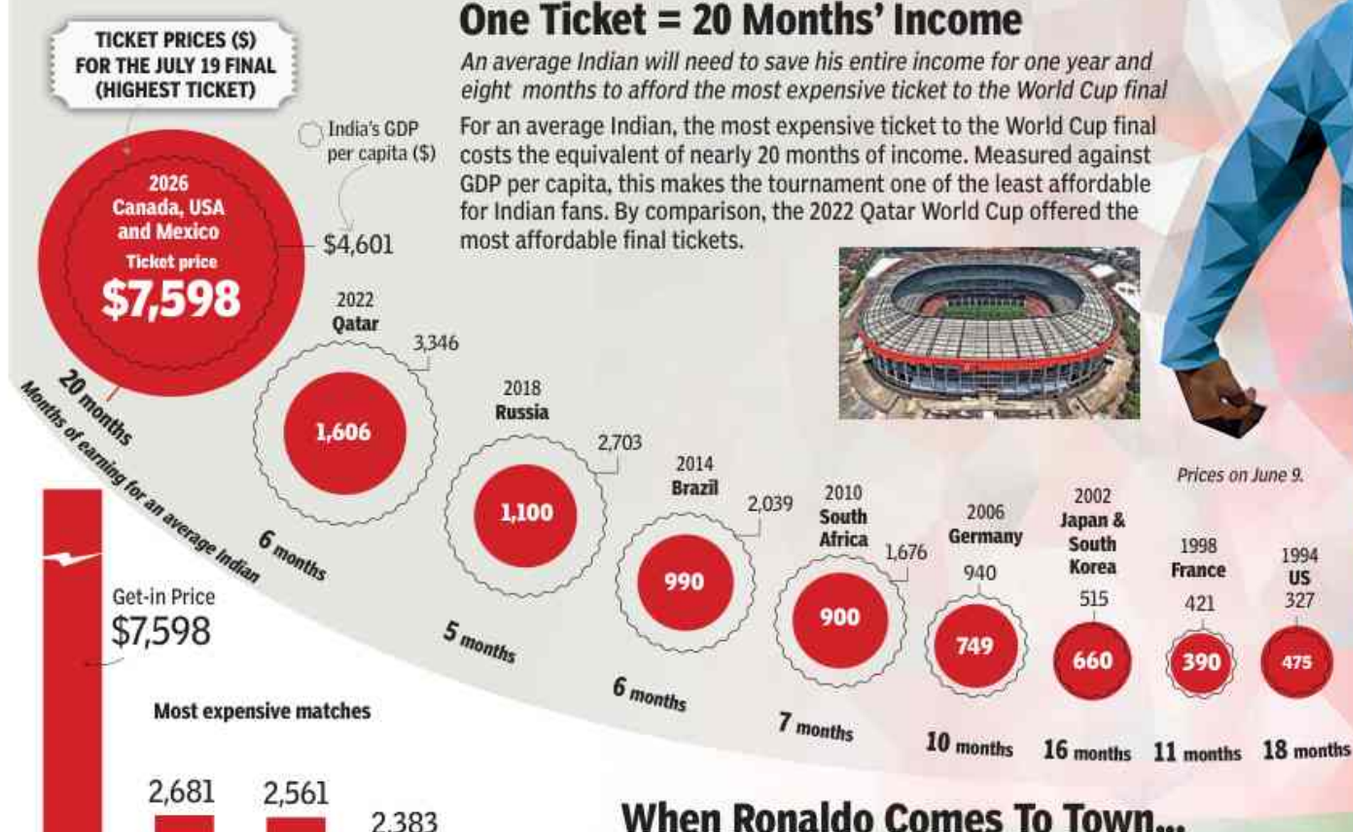
THE WORLD CUP IN NUMBERS
TICKETS, TRAVEL AND TEAMS

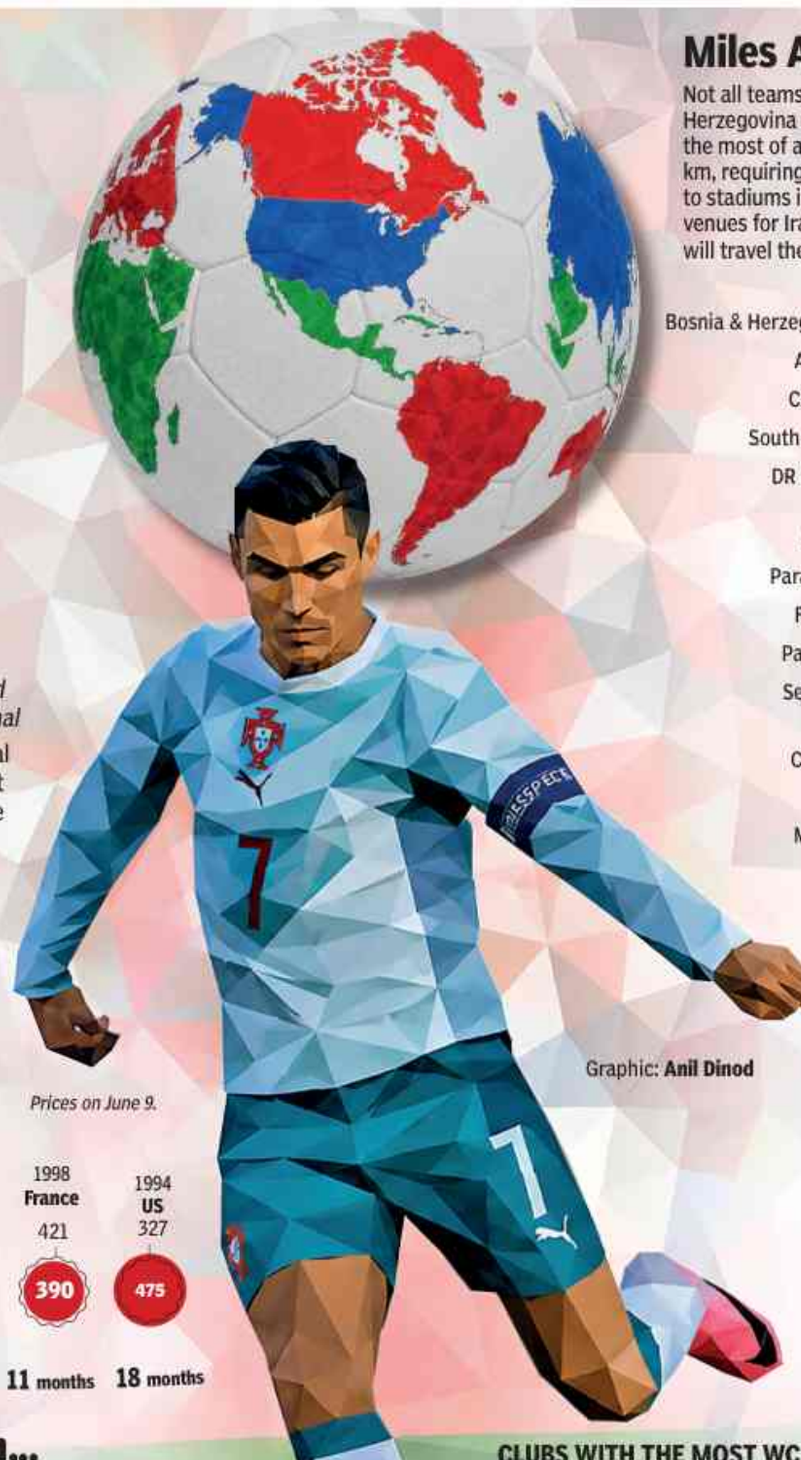
The Biggest World Cup Ever Is Also Making News For Its Steep Ticket Prices. How Much Are Fans Paying? Which Teams Travel The Most? Who Has The Easiest Schedule? Which Clubs Have The Most Players? Here's The Lowdown...

One Ticket = 20 Months' Income

An average Indian will need to save his entire income for one year and eight months to afford the most expensive ticket to the World Cup final

For an average Indian, the most expensive ticket to the World Cup final costs the equivalent of nearly 20 months of income. Measured against GDP per capita, this makes the tournament one of the least affordable for Indian fans. By comparison, the 2022 Qatar World Cup offered the most affordable final tickets.

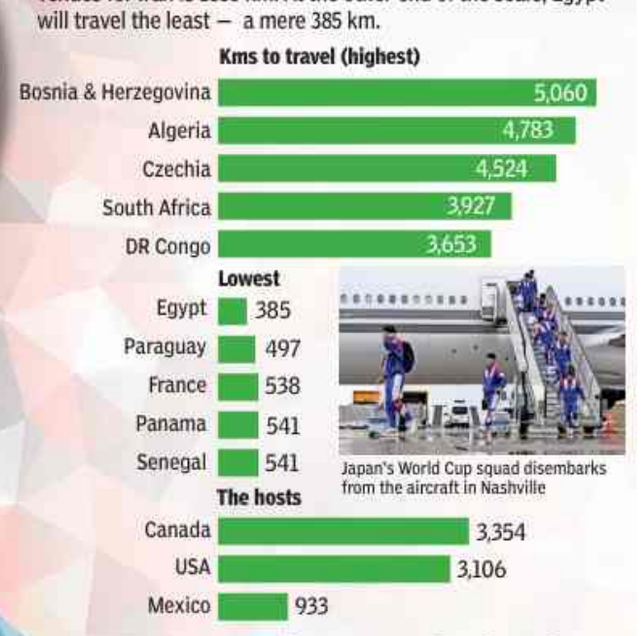




Graphic: **Anil Dinod**

Miles Apart

Not all teams face the same travel burden. Bosnia and Herzegovina will cover more than 5,000 km between matches, the most of any team this time. Iran are close behind at 4,968 km, requiring a round trip from their base in Tijuana, Mexico, to stadiums in the US. But the actual distance between venues for Iran is 1553 km. At the other end of the scale, Egypt will travel the least — a mere 385 km.



Japan's World Cup squad disembarks from the aircraft in Nashville

Manchester City lead the World Cup roll call

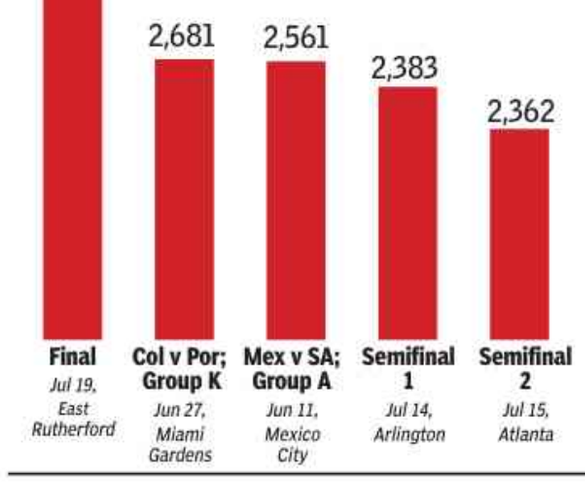
Manchester City has the largest contingent at this World Cup, with 20 players representing their national teams. Bayern Munich ranks second. At the national teams' level, Slavia Prague is at the top with 10 players representing Czechia.

Most players from a single club in one national squad

National Team	Club	Players
Czech Republic	SK Slavia Prague	10
Spain	FC Barcelona	8
Egypt	Al Ahly SC	8
South Africa	Mamelodi Sundowns FC	8
Germany	FC Bayern Munich	7
Argentina	Atlético Madrid	6
Saudi Arabia	Al Hilal SFC	6

When Ronaldo Comes To Town...

The final may command the highest ticket prices but the next most expensive match is the Group K June 27 clash between Colombia and Portugal. The likely reason: Cristiano Ronaldo. At the other end of the spectrum, the group-stage match between Cabo Verde and Saudi Arabia has the cheapest tickets.



Source: Theworldcupguide.com, ticketdata.com, Sports Illustrated

IF KOHLI CAN, KANE WILL... England football team captain and Bayern Munich forward Harry Kane has sparked attention on social media after posting pictures of himself playing cricket and declaring that he is "always ready" for England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) and Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB). Kane's tweet comes after he praised Virat Kohli for his match-winning IPL final knock.

US has spent $250m since Dec on WC drone threats

Security planners for the World Cup are preparing for drones to pose complicated threats. Melissa Swisher, chief revenue officer of SkySafe, an airspace security company, said inexpensive aircraft have "fundamentally changed" security planning for sporting events because they can enter restricted areas before authorities can react. "A $1000 drone that's going 40 to 45 miles per hour could cross two miles in under 3 minutes," she said. The Trump administration has reportedly spent $250 million since Dec to help US host cities address drone threats.

Ebola fears as DR Congo due to travel to Houston on Thursday

The Democratic Republic of Congo wrapped up a disrupted World Cup warm-up campaign with a 2-1 defeat by Chile in a behind-closed-doors friendly in Orleans on Tuesday. The match was switched to the French city after authorities in Cadiz, the original venue, called it off citing public health concerns linked to an Ebola outbreak in the African nation. US officials have said that players, staff must have been outside the DRC for 21 days and symptom-free before entering the country. Congo will travel on Thursday.

Tuchel says England's Saka still recovering from injury

Bukayo Saka is still recovering from an Achilles injury and needs to be carefully managed ahead of the World Cup, England manager Thomas Tuchel said. The 24-year-old forward sustained the injury in March, but played through the discomfort to feature for his club Arsenal towards the end of the season. "Bukayo is playing through discomfort at the end of the season, but obviously managing it and playing at a high level, but still not at 100%," Tuchel said.

TINY HOMES SEE TINY BOOST FOR LOS ANGELES HOMELESS

For the past few months, Michael Gilpin has slept in a small, prefabricated house he moved into when he got off the streets of Los Angeles as part of a major drive to reduce homelessness. The single-room unit has the air of a "jail cell" but it's a huge improvement on sleeping in his car. "It's better than the streets, no cockroaches," the 44-year-old said of his 65-sq-foot home, which he shares with a man. Millions of dollars have been spent on thousands of people to find a place to live in LA. AGENCIES

SNAP SHOTS

Stokes, Atkinson out of 2nd Test

England captain Ben Stokes and bowler Gus Atkinson have both been left out of the second Test against New Zealand starting next week, the ECB said on Wednesday. The move follows reports of a break of curfew and a reported nightclub incident after England's win in the first Test. Joe Root will step in as interim captain in Stokes's absence.

Sindhu, Tanvi advance: PV Sindhu and Tanvi Sharma advanced to the second round at the Australian Open Super 500 badminton tournament in Sydney on Wednesday. Sindhu outclassed Peru's Ines Lucia Castillo Salazar 21-13, 21-11. The biggest win came from 17-year-old Tanvi, who upset world No. 12 Chiu Pin-Chian of Chinese Taipei 21-12, 22-20. Malvika Bansod, Isharani Baruah and Tanya Hemanth also entered the round of 16.

Richa's valiant 68 goes in vain: Richa Ghosh's fine knock was not enough as Dani Gibson's sparkling all-round show powered England to a five-run win in their final Women's T20 World Cup warm-up match in Cardiff on Wednesday. **Brief scores: England: 171/6 in 20 overs** (Amy 64, Sciver-Brunt 57, Dani 30 n.o.; Shreyanka 2-29) **bt India: 166 in 19.5 overs** (Richa 68; Linsey 3-42, Dani 2-17).

Metro edge DPS: Metro HC rallied past Delhi Public School (DPS) 3-2 in the KSHA Super Division Hockey League Championship in Bengaluru on Wednesday. **Result:** Metro HC 3 (Kabilan 20, 41, Lokesh 24) bt DPS 2 (Sanjay 15, Himansu Yadav 40). Today's matches: KDF vs Metro (3 pm).

Injured Hardik to skip ODIs

Arani.Basu@timesofindia.com

Mohali: As the sun went down here on Wednesday, Nitish Kumar Reddy was the first one to mark his run-up. Rohit Sharma, cleared by the BCCI medical team, took stance in one of the four nets. All-rounder Reddy has become the centre of attention after it emerged on Wednesday morning that **Hardik Pandya** had developed a low grade quadricep strain a day before joining India's ODI team ahead of the series against Afghanistan starting in Dharamshala on Saturday.

Two days ago, India's assistant batting coach Sitanshu Kotak conveyed to the media that both Hardik and Rohit were reportedly fine to play in the series. Hardik, it is learnt, had dispelled doubts about his ability to bowl 10 overs at the Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru. His data was shared with the BCCI and team management before he felt discomfort in his quadriceps on Tuesday morning. The CoE staff accompanied him to the BCCI-recommended diagnostic centre on Tuesday night where the injury was confirmed.

CRICKET

The selectors and the team management have been fretting about his bowling fitness as they chart their plans for the 2027 ODI World Cup in South Africa. Pandya was also rested from the upcoming T20I assignments in Ireland and England to preserve him for the ODI format.

The recent development could force selectors and the management to give an extended run to Reddy.

He may get a lot more matches through rotation even when the all-rounder is declared fit to play in one-dayers. Reddy has been working with UK-based bowling coach Stefan Jones to increase his pace and endurance as a seam-bowling allrounder.

India have about 25-30 ODIs before the World Cup in Oct-Nov next year. Sources told TOI that the team management is getting edgy about Hardik's ability to remain fit. "The team doesn't want to get caught in a situation where they don't have a seam-bowling allrounder ready close to the World Cup. There have been discussions where they wanted to prepare for life without Hardik," BCCI sources said.

Suthar to play for Warwickshire

Mandakini.Shalya@timesofindia.com

Jaipur: It has been a whirlwind week for left-arm spinner **Manav Suthar**. Fresh off an impressive Test debut, the 23-year-old from Rajasthan is embarking on his next assignment. He heads to Warwickshire for a county stint. Excerpts:

On his upcoming county stint:
I'm off to play county cricket for Warwickshire. I received a call from them and the decision was made a few days ago. Everything is finalised. It's a great opportunity for me, so I'm very happy.

On his debut against Afghanistan:
It definitely feels like a dream debut. Whenever I think about it or reflect on it, that's exactly the feeling I get. It was a really good experience.

On the Indian dressing room:
Shubman (Gill) and the coaches told me to play my natural game and not overthink. They told me to enjoy the game, back my skills.

Gold Kite triumphs

Mysuru: Aditya-trained Gold Kite, ridden by Dharshan Antony, shocked the punters as he won the Amba Vilas Palace Trophy, the feature event of the race here on Wednesday.

1. The Arakalgudu Plate 1100M: Stormrider 1, Born Ruler 2, Pilot Officer 3, Mystical Eve 4. 3l, 3-3/4l, 8l. T: 1:05.96. Tote: Rs 13 (W). 10, 12, 11 (P). Fc: Rs 39. Q: Rs 39. Shp: Rs 31. Thp: Rs 35. Trinalla: Rs 123 & 25. Exacta: Rs 289 & 140. **2. The Chaitanya Chakram Plate (Div II) 1100M:** Feronia 1, Just Blues 2, Golden Beast 3, Fashionista 4. Shd, 1-1/2l, 1l. T: 1:07.38. Tote: Rs 15.2 (W). 49, 13, 156 (P). Fc: Rs 786. Q: Rs 134. Shp: Rs 32. Thp: Rs 239. Trinalla: Rs 26,265. Exacta: c/o (Rs 27,930). **3. The Malavalli Plate (Div II) 1400M:** Iron King 1, Walter 2, Natural Diamond 3, Sheer Elegance 4. 1-1/4l, 3l, 2-1/2l. T: 1:25.53. Tote: Rs 17 (W). 10, 14, 21 (P). Fc: Rs 84. Q: Rs 51. Shp: Rs 34. Thp: Rs 58. Trinalla: Rs 303 & 194. Exacta: Rs 1,559 & 570. **4. The Chaitanya Chakram Plate (Div I) 1100M:** Mr Karnataka 1, Hasting Sunrise 2, Eagle Bluff 3, Break Away 4. Not run: Kingsland, Windborne. 8-1/4l, 2-1/2l, 1-1/2l. T: 1:06.29. Tote: Rs 30 (W). 12, 16, 11 (P). Fc: Rs 326. Q: Rs 279. Shp: Rs 46. Thp: Rs 45. Trinalla: Rs 1,109 & 305. Exacta: Rs 58,354.

5. The The Malavalli Plate (Div I) 1100M: Red Hills 1, Cloudy Hills 2, Super Stride 3, D Roman Reigns 4. 1/2l, 3-3/4l, 1l. T: 1:26.33. Tote: Rs 360 (W). 43, 12, 16 (P). Fc: Rs 978. Q: Rs 514. Shp: Rs 38. Thp: Rs 41. Trinalla: Rs 32567 & 4652. Exacta: c/o (Rs 86,778).

6. The Amba Vilas Palace Trophy 1200M:

Gold Kite 1, Rise Again 2, Perfect Blend 3, Crown Drive 4. 1l, 3-1/2l, 1-3/4l. T: 1:10.33. Tote: Rs 75 (W). 18, 11, 14 (P). Fc: Rs 421. Q: Rs 147. Shp: Rs 30. Thp: Rs 63. Trinalla: Rs 3,882 & 2,431. Exacta: Rs 3,319 & 948. **7. The Bidadi Plate 1600M:** Chief Admiral 1, Sada 2, Golden Sabre 3, Natural Speed 4. 4-1/4l, 1-3/4l, 2l. T: 1: 38.83. Tote: Rs 39 (W). 18, 10, 43 (P). Fc: Rs 125. Q: Rs 61. Shp: Rs 35. Thp: Rs 43. Trinalla: Rs 328 & 239. Exacta: Rs 3,736 & 1,448.

8. The Kollegal Plate 1400M: Klimt 1, Red Falcon 1, Balgownie 3, Thalaivaa 4. Dead Heat, 1-1/4l, 2-1/4l. T: 1:25.11. Tote: Rs 13, 43 (W). 15, 29, 12 (P). Fc: Rs 121 & 121. Q: Rs 110. Thp: Rs 53. Trinalla: Rs 311 & 127-311 & 127 Exacta: Rs 4,620 & 3,960-4,620 & 3,960.

Jackpot: Rs 3,27,653. **Runner up:** Rs 17,553. Mini jackpot: c/o (Rs 5,067). **First treble:** Rs 604. **Second treble:** c/o (Rs 2,586). **Third treble:** Rs 1,028/1,026. TNN

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THE TIMES

INCLUSIVE OF BANGALORE TIMES |

"In football everything is complicated by the presence of the opposite team" — Jean-Paul Sartre

LARGEST. LONGEST. MESSIEST

It's the largest ever. The 2026 Fifa World Cup explodes into action tonight with 48 countries lining up for a record 104 games. The edition spans 16 cities in three countries (the USA, Mexico and Canada), another first. It's also the longest. Never before has an edition spanned 39 days. But bigger isn't always better. Detaining a player on arrival, denying entry to a referee, massive ticket controversy and website glitch — the World Cup is already the messiest. Nonetheless, enjoy the late night and the early morning spectacle — even though you might be interrupted by the milkman knocking at your door

TOI READERS PREDICT A SURPRISE WORLD CUP WINNER IN ONLINE POLL

Who will win the World Cup 2026?

Argentina	26%
France	18%
Spain	19%
Surprise awaits	37%

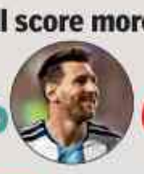
Who is likely to win the Golden Boot?

Kylian Mbappe	56%
Harry Kane	12%
Vinicius Junior	13%
Julian Alvarez	19%

Which of these young guns are you most eager to watch?

Endrick	14%
Lamine Yamal	53%
Arda Guler	17%
Gilberto Mora	16%

Who will score more goals?

Ronaldo 39%  Messi 61%

What's your ideal number of teams in a World Cup?

24	32	48	64
20%	42%	24%	14%

How will you watch the late-night matches?

Will watch live 25%
Watch my fav teams only 36%
Watch full game replay 10%
Will watch highlights 29%

SUPER SIX BRIEF HISTORY & BIOGRAPHY OF FIFA'S HIGHEST-RANKED SQUADS

FIFA RANK 1 ARGENTINA

PREVIOUS BEST: Current World Champions. Also winners in 1978 and 1986

NICKNAME: La Albiceleste (The White and Sky Blue)

COACH: Lionel Scaloni

GROUP J FORECAST: Both Algeria (Fifa rank, 28) and Austria (rank, 24) could be tricky for most. But Argentina is expected to overpower them, top the group

GROUP GAMES: vs Algeria, June 17. vs Austria on June 22. vs Jordan, June 28

ASSESSMENT: Brimming with talent, young and old, the champions look good. Also sentimental favourite too due to the peerless Lionel Messi, playing his sixth — one can never say last — World Cup. But remember, a repeat triumph is rarest of rare, especially for an aging squad

WATCH OUT FOR: **Julián Alvarez**, the red hot forward from Atletico Madrid

FAVOURITE WC SNACK: Choripan, a sausage sandwich to be relished with chimichurri sauce

FIFA RANK 2 SPAIN

PREVIOUS BEST: Winners, 2010

NICKNAME: La Roja (The Red One)

COACH: Luis de la Fuente

GROUP H FORECAST: Should be a cakewalk with easy games against Cabo (Cape) Verde (Fifa rank, 67) and Saudi Arabia (rank, 61). Last game against Uruguay (rank, 16) to decide group topper could be tougher

GROUP GAMES: vs Cape Verde, June 15. vs Saudi Arabia, June 21. vs Uruguay, June 27

ASSESSMENT: Read out these names aloud. Pedri, Gavi, Martín Zubimendi, Rodri, Ruiz, **Nico Williams,** Mikel Oyarzabal. Plus three stand-out goalies. Now pause, ponder. This is a galaxy of talent with flair and fortitude. Top title challengers, say experts. Title favourites, say English bookies

WATCH OUT FOR: Lamine Yamal. Made a spectacular entry in Euro 2024. At 18, two years later, the winger is a more creative tormentor of defences

FAVOURITE WC SNACK: Sunflower seeds, also called 'pipas,' enjoyed roasted and lightly salted.

FIFA RANK 3 FRANCE

PREVIOUS BEST: Winners (1998 and 2018)

NICKNAME: Les Bleus (The Blues)

COACH: **Didier Deschamps**

GROUP I FORECAST: Likely to sail through to knock-outs, though Senegal (Fifa rank, 15) and big-unit Erling Haaland's Norway (rank, 31) is known to surprise

GROUP GAMES: vs Senegal, June 17. vs Iraq, June 23. vs Norway, June 27

ASSESSMENT: Defence-minded Deschamps has two world-class centre-backs: Arsenal's William Saliba and Bayern Munich's Dayot Upamecano. France also has a solid engine room, plus a fearsome attack: 2025 Ballon d'Or winner PSG's Ousmane Dembele, starlet Desire Doue, and, of course, the devastating **Kylian Mbappe**

WATCH OUT FOR: Michael Olise, attacking medio who plays for Bayern Munich

FAVOURITE WC SNACK: Galette-saucisse, hot, grilled pork sausage wrapped in buckwheat crepe

FIFA RANK 4 ENGLAND

PREVIOUS BEST: Winners (1966)

NICKNAME: The Three Lions

COACH: Thomas Tuchel

GROUP L FORECAST: On paper, a tough group for the eternal self-attested favourites :) But this is neither the Croatia (Fifa rank, 11) of 2022 nor Ghana (rank, 73) of 2010

GROUP GAMES: vs Croatia, June 18. vs Ghana, June 24. vs Panama, June 28

ASSESSMENT: In past World Cups, England have always looked good enough for quarterfinal, even semifinal, but not beyond. Despite a vigorous midfield (Declan Rice, Eberechi Eze) and first-rate forwards (**Harry Kane**, Bukayo Saka), that's where they seem headed again

WATCH OUT FOR: Jude Bellingham. Coach Tuchel doubts his starting place. But undeniably the Real Madrid medio is a complete box-to-box medio

FAVOURITE WC SNACK: Meat and potato pies

FIFA RANK 5 PORTUGAL

PREVIOUS BEST: Third (1966)

NICKNAME: Os Navegadores (The Navigators). Also a Selecao (The Select)

COACH: Roberto Martinez

GROUP K FORECAST: Should be too good for Congo (Fifa rank, 46) and Uzbekistan (rank, 50). The tantalising game against Colombia (rank, 13) will decide the group topper

GROUP GAMES: vs DR Congo, June 17. vs Uzbekistan, June 23. vs Colombia, June 28

ASSESSMENT: Enjoys a wide fan base due to **Cristiano Ronaldo**, now 41, also playing his sixth WC. Powerful unit all-round with some of the biggest names in European football: defenders Ruben Dias (Man City), Nuno Mendes (PSG) and midfield men like Bernardo Silva (Man City) and Vitinha (PSG)

WATCH OUT FOR: Bruno Fernandes (Man U). One of the best medios in business

FAVOURITE WC SNACK: Bifana, a pork steak sandwich

FIFA RANK 6 BRAZIL

PREVIOUS BEST: Winners (1958, 62, 70, 94 and 2002)

NICKNAME: The Selecao

COACH: 'Don' Carlo Ancelotti

GROUP C FORECAST: Hardy group. Against Morocco (rank, 7), Brazil play the most mouth-watering game of the group stage. Irrespective of the result, both sides should move ahead. The outcome, however, could decide the topper

GROUP GAMES: vs Morocco, June 14. vs Haiti, June 20. vs Scotland, June 25

ASSESSMENT: Strong at the back with classy central defenders like Gabriel (Arsenal) and Marquinhos (PSG) and an extra-strong forward line: Matheus Cunha (Manchester United), Neymar (Santos), Raphinha (Barcelona), and **Vinicius Jr** (Real Madrid). But it is thin in the middle and doesn't have quality overlapping full-backs as in the past

WATCH OUT FOR: Endrick, the sprightly young forward who plays for Lyon

FAVOURITE WC SNACK: Coxinhas, teardrop-shaped dumplings, made of dough, breadcrumbs, and generally filled with chicken

Text: Avijit Ghosh

OPENING CEREMONY | Starts June 11, 10.30pm | OPENING MATCH | SA vs Mexico | Time/Date: 00.30am, June 12 Streaming on Zee 5, Unite8 Sports Network, DD Sports

DO YOU KNOW?: **Romario**, Brazil's super striker of the 1990s, now runs a popular YouTube channel

"Beyond the touchline there is nothing."
Jacques Derrida, French philosopher

TOI PRINT EXCLUSIVE: RAPHINHA INTERVIEW

BRAZIL CAN WIN THE WORLD CUP IF WE PLAY WELL DEFENSIVELY

The winger is central to Selecao's plans as they seek a title they last won 24 years ago in 2002

Full Name
Raphael Dias Belloli
Date of Birth
Dec 14, 1996
Age | **29**
Position
Winger/Forward
Club | **FC Barcelona**
National Team | **Brazil**
Preferred Foot | **Left**

BRAZIL CAREER

Appearances **38**
Goals **11**
Assists **7**
Assists **18**

2022 World Cup
5 Appearances
0 goals; 0 assists.
Set for his second World Cup

CLUB CAREER (FOR BARCELONA)
Appearances **143**
Goals **54**
50 Assists
104 Goal Contributions

■ **Thirty-two years and another World Cup in the US. Can Brazil do it?**
Yes, I know people are referring to our win in 1994 in the US. We won it after 1970, so the similarity is discussed once again. I feel that Brazil can win the World Cup if we play well defensively. We must be more organised, we have the fire power to score goals. Modern football is all about defending by the entire 11. We need to be well organised.

■ **With Morocco, Haiti and Scotland in the initial stage, it should not be difficult to top the group for Brazil...**
I don't buy that! We are in a World Cup where only the best teams play. You can never ignore the strengths of any team in this competition. Yes, there are and will be some teams with a greater history and weight, but that does not mean the other teams are lesser. World Cup has seen so many matches where relatively lesser teams have won. We have to play to the best of our abilities to win matches in the World Cup.

■ **You were a part of the Qatar World Cup in 2022 where Brazil lost the quarterfinal against Croatia on penalties.**
It really broke our hearts. We were ahead in the match, in extra-time with a goal from Neymar. But they restored parity late and we could not convert. Tiebreakers are always heartbreakers but that was the way to go out from the World Cup where we played well. World Cup knockouts are like that. A mistake, no matter how small or natural it may be, can cost you the match.

■ **This time, Brazil will be playing under a foreign coach, Italian Carlo Ancelotti...**
His list of records speaks for itself! He has won everything in club football, and he was part of the Italian team as an assistant coach when they played the final against us in 1994. He is one of those great thinkers of the game and always talks to help us understand the way he wants the team to play.

■ **Can this be a World Cup for Neymar?**
Why not? He is an exceptional player. Not only can he decide the outcome of a match but also the World Cup. We are preparing for our sixth crown, and Neymar will have to play a major role.

■ **There are some exciting talents in the team as well...**
Yes, our squad has the right mix of youth and experienced players. Moreover, all are eager to win, which is the best part. Wearing the Selecao jersey is a matter of pride and that pride motivates us to play better, to win more games. Hunger should be there. We are hungry for success.

■ **Any area of concern for this Brazil team?**
I have already said that we need to defend better as a team. Nowadays, it's defending 11 vs 11. All the players should be involved when the opponent team has the ball, and it has to be done in every area of the pitch. We have the right talented players to do so, and we should be doing that regularly for the 90 minutes of the game. Even a small mistake can be dangerous. We have to be alert and ready to attack whenever we have possession. PMG

New Rules At The World Cup

Anti-Time Wasting

The 10-Second Sub Rule | Subbed players must exit within 10 seconds or their team plays down a man for one minute.

5-Sec Restart Clock | Exceeding five seconds on throw-ins flips possession; doing so on goal-kicks gives the opponent a corner.

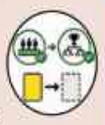
1-Min Injury Bench | Injured players treated on the pitch must wait one full minute on the sideline before re-entry.

Conduct & Discipline

Mouth-Covering Ban | Covering the mouth while arguing with opponents or officials triggers a straight red card.

Protest Walk-Offs | Walking off the pitch in protest earns an automatic red card and potential team forfeit.

Yellow Card Reset | Single bookings are rescinded twice: after the group stage and after the quarterfinals.



Messi and mates during a water break at WC 2014

Expanded VAR Roles

Second Yellow Review | Video refs can now double-check and overturn unfair second yellow cards.

Corner Kick Checks | VAR can quickly correct wrongly awarded corner kicks before the ball is played.

Roster & Format — **48 Team** Field — **12 groups** of four feed into a brand-new Round of **32 knockout stage.** Top two teams from each group and the eight best third-placed teams make the knockouts.

How Are The 8 Highest-Ranked Teams Determined

The eight highest-ranked third-place teams out of the 12 total groups will advance to the Round of 32. To determine their cross-tournament ranking, Fifa evaluates their performance in all group stage matches using a strict order of tiebreakers:

Total Points | Teams are ranked primarily by group stage points (3 for a win, 1 for a draw).

Goal Difference | If points are tied, the team with the superior overall goal difference (goals scored minus goals allowed) ranks higher.

Goals Scored | If still tied, the team that scored the highest number of total goals advances.

Fair Play Points | If a deadlock persists, the team with the cleanest disciplinary record (fewest yellow and red card deduction points) ranks higher.

Fifa World Ranking | If still completely level, the final tiebreaker relies on the team's position in the latest Fifa world rankings.

Substitution Limits | Teams get 5 regular subs, a 6th in extra time, plus special concussion replacements.

Hydration Breaks | With hot weather conditions predicted during the tournament, Fifa has for the first time mandated three-minute hydration breaks in each half for all matches. Fifa says its approach to water breaks is based on player-welfare concerns, but the stoppages could also enhance the value of broadcast rights by creating additional advertising opportunities for networks. Such breaks at the World Cup first happened during the Netherlands v Mexico game in 2014 in Brazil's Fortaleza, when temperatures exceeded 36°C (between 38°C to 39°C were registered pitch-side), and were then considered on a match-by-match basis.

Football As Fun

THE WORLD CUP IS A MULTIVERSE. WHAT YOU CAN WATCH AND READ TO STAY THERE 24X7 OVER THE NEXT FIVE WEEKS...

FOOTIE FEATURES

Jhund (2022)
Director Nagraj Manjule uses football to show how community and class connect and intersect in this hard-edged feature on slumdogs, not millionaires.

Offside (2006)
Director Jafar Panahi's feel-good yet subversive take on gender bias in football watching in Iran.

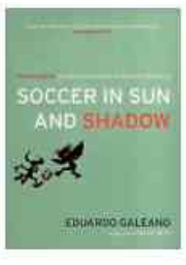
Fever Pitch (1997)
The ultimate menage a trois between man, woman and Arsenal.

Getty Images

Escape to Victory (1981)
It's WWII. The Nazis want a game with their prisoners of war who plot an escape, but not before Pele executes his bicycle kick.

FOOTBALL FICTION

Soccer in Sun and Shadow by Eduardo Galeano
Sports answer to One Hundred Years of Solitude, wrote *The Financial Times*. Galeano writes like only he can.



The Striker by Anna Huang
A steamy romance between an EPL stud and a former ballerina that rose to No. 1 on every US bestseller list.

Stopper by Moti Nandy
An poignant novel that draws parallels between life and football through a stopper.

Higuita by N S Madhavan
The Malayalam writer's short story of a priest inspired by eccentric Colombian goalie Rene Higuita.

Do You KNOW?

VIVIAN RICHARDS IS THE ONLY SPORTSPERSON TO PARTICIPATE IN BOTH A FOOTBALL WORLD CUP QUALIFIER (FOR ANTIGUA) AND THE CRICKET WORLD CUPS (WEST INDIES)